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THE TIMES

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The scandal
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Further 11,600 out of work as higher trend goes unchecked

Summer surge in unemployment continues with a further 11,600 people joining the register in the first week of August. The total number of adults without work has jumped to 1,356,700 after adjust-

ments for seasonal factors, while some 220,300 school leavers are without work. The latest increase will add to the difficulties in trying to convince unions that wage sacrifices have been worthwhile.

Reflation pressure on Mr Healey

Melvin Westlake
Unemployment in Britain continues to climb relentlessly. In the four weeks to mid-August, 11,600 more people were added to the register. This measure, which is for seasonal factors and school leavers, rose to 11,600, equivalent to 5.9 per cent of the work force.

However, the gross totals are higher, including some 300 school leavers still without work in Northern Ireland. When these groups are added to the total of 1,356,700, the total for the United Kingdom as a whole came out at 1,667,000, to show a rise of 12,800.

Through the latest increase, the deal less than the jump in July and June, it is that almost 100,000 more have joined the ranks of the unemployed during the last six months alone.

The summer surge in unemployment could not have come worse moment for the Government, which is anxiously trying to win approval from the unions for further wage bargaining in the coming year.

The latest jobless figures, released yesterday by the Department of Employment, are far below the annual TUC target, now less than 20 per cent away. They will do little to convince trade unions that their sacrifices on wages front during the past year have been a worthwhile bargain.

Almost certainly, the Government will come under increasing pressure to stimulate the economy and thereby provide a boost to employment. Responding yesterday to the latest figures, Mr David Bessent, general secretary of the General and Municipal Workers, Britain's third largest trade union, called on the Government to cut the rate of value-added tax as a means of bringing down the cost of living, and helping to refuel the economy.

A vigorous new effort is needed from the Government if unemployment is not to reach levels unknown to generations of working people in the United Kingdom, Mr Bessent said.

Mr Clive Jenkins, general secretary of the Association of Scientific, Technical, Managerial Staffs, commented: "These deeply worrying statistics are the coffin nails for the 12-month rule", which limits pay rises to one per cent.

"We need more purchasing power in people's pockets to get the labour intensive industries tanked up again", he insisted.

Mr James Prior, the Tory spokesman on unemployment, criticized the Chancellor, for "completely going on holiday while unemployment was so high".

The problem is made worse for Mr Healey by the fact that, for demographic reasons, there are more people now joining the labour force each year than in earlier years.

Many of the extra numbers are school leavers. Although there has been a sharp drop in employment among school

leavers last month, they are often competing for jobs with the existing unemployed. This is thought partially to account for the large increases in registered jobless during June and July, even after school leavers are excluded.

Particularly disturbing is the rise in the number out of work for a prolonged period. Some 1,180,000 people under 60 years of age have been without work for four weeks or more. This figure has been rising steadily for many months.

There are, in addition, clear signs that the regional pattern of unemployment is becoming more divergent again.

Much of the increase in the jobless total last month occurred in Yorkshire and Humberside, East Midlands, East Anglia, Wales and Scotland. The regional unemployment is in the North and Scotland where 7.9 per cent of the labour force is jobless, compared with 4.5 per cent in the South East.

By contrast, the level of vacancies in other main barometer besides unemployment of the state of the labour market, showed a slightly more hopeful trend last month. The underlying number of notified vacancies rose by 1,400 after a seasonal adjustment, to reach 152,000.

But, with living standards falling, and the level of economic activity expected to remain depressed, most independent economic forecasts predict a steady rise in unemployment this coming winter.

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EEC jobless rise, page 20



Down the Rhine: Fifteen British Army teams and one of Solihull councillors set out yesterday on a 150-mile raft race from Mannheim to Bonn. The proceeds go to a Solihull children's home.

Callaghan denial on spy devices at No 10

By David Wood
Political Editor
After conducting "detailed inquiries" the Prime Minister, James Callaghan, has issued a statement yesterday denying last month's newspaper reports that during Sir Harold Wilson's time at 10 Downing Street British security or intelligence agents fixed listening devices in his offices.

The reports carried no more verisimilitude at the time than the fact that Sir Harold himself had confessed his suspicions to journalists. That made necessary the inquiries carried out by Mr Callaghan, who bears ultimate political responsibility for state security, and Mr Ross, Home Secretary, the minister to whom the security service is responsible from day to day.

The statement from 10 Downing Street read: "The Prime Minister has conducted detailed inquiries into the recent allegations about the security service and is satisfied that they do not constitute grounds for lack of confidence in the competence and impartiality of the security service, or for instituting a special inquiry."

In particular, the Prime Minister is satisfied that at no time has the security service, or any other British intelligence or security agency, either of its own accord or at someone else's request, undertaken electronic surveillance in 10 Downing Street or in the Prime Minister's room in the House of Commons.

A footnote adds that Mr Ross, as minister responsible for the security service, was closely involved in the inquiries and completely agreed.

Some politicians found it deeply disturbing to read allegations, purporting to be evidence, that a Prime Minister's offices could be "bugged", especially when the reports added that the security service had confessed Dr Owen, the Foreign and Commonwealth Secretary, and Mr Ratt, Minister of Overseas Development, both members of the Cabinet, with other people of the same names. That explains Mr Callaghan's reference to the competence of the security service.

Mrs Thatcher commented last night: "I share the Prime Minister's confidence in the security service."

A Staff Reporter writes: Mr Chapman Fincher issued the following statement last night: "I retract nothing and neither does the Daily Express following this internal inquiry, which is clearly a matter for the security service. We have new evidence supporting Sir Harold Wilson's contention that certain British security men suspected that some of his colleagues had communist affiliations, and as a result, were in conflict with him. This evidence will be disclosed in the Daily Express tomorrow."

US investment offer for Ulster expected in Carter statement

From Christopher Walker
Belfast

An important statement on American policy towards Northern Ireland is expected to be made by President Carter in the next few days.

There was speculation in Belfast and Dublin yesterday that the President's intervention would include a pledge of United States investment as an incentive for Roman Catholic and Protestant politicians to reconcile their wide differences on a form of devolved government.

Draft copies of the American policy statement are understood to have already been made available to the Irish and British governments. One section is known to contain a serious condemnation of the Provisional IRA and the Irish Americans who have been supplying the organization with funds in recent years.

Pressure for President Carter to make positive steps towards ending the violence in Ulster has come from a group of influential Irish-American politicians led by Senator Edward Kennedy.

The politicians, including Mr Thomas O'Neill, Speaker of the

House of Representatives, have had informal contacts in America in recent months with Mr John Hume, deputy leader of the Social Democratic and Labour Party in Northern Ireland.

British government sources emphasize that the Presidential statement will not be a new initiative but will contain the strongest indication yet of the official American government attitude towards Northern Ireland.

In Belfast last night it was considered unlikely that President Carter would offer any immediate financial aid to the province, where high unemployment has long been regarded as a contributory factor to the violence. Instead, an offer of increased investment was expected, dependent on concrete signs that local politicians were prepared to come together to find an agreed solution.

Such a move would tie in with the priorities of Mr Mason, Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, who has put much emphasis on reviving Ulster's flagging economy since he took over at Stormont Castle in October he is due to

make a tour of American cities aimed at attracting new industry to the province.

Ironically the planned timing of the presidential statement will coincide with a deterioration in relations between the main Protestant and Roman Catholic political parties in Ulster.

Differences between "loyalist" politicians and members of the mainly Roman Catholic SDLP were exacerbated by the Queen's jubilee visit. But distrust had built up beforehand because of a conviction among SDLP leaders that some kind of deal had been agreed by the British Government in exchange for the support of Official Unionist MPs in the House of Commons.

For their part, Unionist leaders in Belfast have been laying out the case in recent public statements on the need for the Government to accept the majority convention report. That suggested a form of devolved government which ruled out power-sharing at Cabinet level. It has already been rejected at Westminster.

Peace funds, page 2
Liam's lesson, page 14

Newton's pound will be small and light

By Alan Hamilton

Mr Harold Wilson, when Prime Minister, was correct to insist on television during the financial crisis of 1967 that the pound in your pocket remained unchanged. It has in fact remained unchanged since 1960 but from early next year it is to be reduced by several sixteenths of an inch in both directions.

Production has begun at the Bank of England printing press at Loughborough, Essex, of a smaller £1 note which will go into circulation in the new year. It is predominantly green, carries the head of the Queen from the present £5 note on one side and a picture of Sir Isaac Newton on the other. The same size as the Scottish pound note, it is five eighths of an inch narrower and three sixteenths shorter than the present note.

The new design, designed by the Bank's staff and printed by offset lithography, completes a series introduced in 1968 and is intended to harmonize with the £5, £10 and £20 denominations, which bear portraits of the Duke of Wellington, Florence Nightingale and Shakespeare. The reduction in size is explained as an attempt to make it easier to differentiate between a pound note and a five in the dark. It will also assist the blind.

An unwelcome feature of the design, particularly to those who habitually tear their money in two, is that it carries only one set of serial numbers, at the bottom right-hand corner of the front. The left-hand side is left blank to allow banks to overprint their own code numbers for electronic sorting.

The Bank of England gave an assurance yesterday that avocations for a refund from people holding only the left-hand side of a new pound would be considered. It hopes the new design will present a more difficult challenge to forgers.

Huge supplies of the new notes will be required, as the life expectancy of a note has gone down with its value. There are 800 million £1 notes in circulation but their average life is between nine and 10 months, compared with 11 months five years ago. When the 10 shilling note was withdrawn in 1970 its life expectancy was down to six months.

The first pound notes appeared in 1797, when the Bank of England issued 700,000, as well as £2 notes, each signed by the chief cashier. Previously it had been illegal to issue paper money in denominations of less than £5.

Sir Isaac Newton never saw a pound note, as he died in 1727. Were he alive today, he would find that one of his new portraits would buy precious few apples.

Garages worried: The new note has been criticized by garage owners, many of whom have motor-acceptor petrol pumps offering a 24-hour service (the Times Association reports). The Motor Agents' Association, which represents 28,000 garages, has not yet established whether the new note will fit the machines. "If there are any difficulties, it will be the motorists who suffer", an official said.

There are about 5,000 motor-acceptor petrol pumps in Britain and it seems likely that it will be possible to adapt them with only minor adjustments.

Governor Maryland convicted corruption

David Cross
Baltimore, Aug 23

In 13 days of deliberations a jury in Baltimore, Maryland, today found Governor Marvin Mandel guilty of political corruption. The jury returned a verdict of more than \$350,000 (\$300,000) worth of gifts and money from his co-defendants in return for influencing race legislation to their advantage. The co-defendants consisted of race-courting judges set October 7 as to sentencing Mr Mandel and his five co-defendants.

The trial, the first in the state since 1968, admitted accepting but denied they were involved in the case. The main charge was that the Governor had used his office to influence the trial of a man who had been found guilty of murder in 1968, admitted accepting but denied they were involved in the case. The main charge was that the Governor had used his office to influence the trial of a man who had been found guilty of murder in 1968, admitted accepting but denied they were involved in the case.

Holiday air strike prospect unresolved

By Christopher Thomas
London Reporter

Mr Booth, Secretary of State for Transport, has broken his holiday to meet leaders of the assistant air traffic controllers, who are due to begin a four-day strike from midnight tomorrow. However, there seemed little prospect of averting the strike.

Officials of the union, the Civil and Public Services Association, described the talks as "nothing more than a public relations exercise".

Mr John Macreadie, the union's official responsible for civil aviation, said: "The Government is playing games so that it can put its hand on its head and say it tried to avert the strike."

Union rules, headed, dictated that unless the men's demand was met in full, or nearly in full, there would have to be a ballot to call off the strike. That would take five days.

The Department of Employment last night maintained that meeting the demand would breach the principle of a 12-month pause between wage settlements. April the men received a deal under which two. The union says they should get 1.3 to 1.7 per cent backdated to January 1, 1975, under a re-grading scheme agreed in the summer of 1975 but delayed by the pay policy.

The Government has brought about the first open fight by the Government to maintain a

strict pay policy in the public sector. The TUC, whose general council has declared its commitment to the 12-month rule, has supported the union.

The 850 air traffic control assistants supply crucial data on flight paths and conditions to air traffic controllers, who belong to another union. About 250 of the assistants are at the West Drayton control centre, which has been writing out details by hand instead of putting them in the computer, so causing the present delays.

Salaries are £2,755 maximum for grade two staff and £3,825 for grade one.

The union says the strike will make airports idle, but airlines say they expect to get away some flights. At least half the 3,000 daily movements through British air space will be cancelled, it is expected, and the rest will be badly delayed.

The Civil Aviation Authority yesterday discussed plans to use larger aircraft to carry more passengers. Lufthansa adopted that policy to counter-act last week's disruption, by substituting jumbo jets for the regular aircraft.

A decision to lift the ban on night flights brought protests from residents living near Heathrow and Gatwick airports. The authority urged residents to "bear with the poor people who are waiting hours and hours for flights."

Continued on page 2, col 4

Chinese party lays Red Guard spectre

From David Bosvia
Hongkong, Aug 23

The new constitution of the Chinese Communist Party lays heavy stress on discipline within the party ranks, reversing the previous emphasis on the freedom of party members to "swim against the tide" in the interests of radical ideas.

Undergoing its third revision in less than a decade, the constitution was introduced to the recent eleventh party congress in Peking by Marshal Yeh Chien-ying, the Defence Minister, himself thought to be a strong believer in discipline and order.

The new constitution gives increased emphasis to the party's role as the "vanguard of the proletariat", and specifically opposes "dogmatism" although it pays tribute to Mao and his leaders. It confirms Chairman Hua Guofeng's statement that the Cultural Revolution which began in 1966 is now Red Guard organizations as considered to be definitely at an end, and it drops references to having a role to play in the party's work.

The document also reiterates the promise made by Chairman Hua in his congress speech

Miners seek ballot on incentives

By Our Northern
Industrial Correspondent

Nottinghamshire's 34,000 miners are seeking to overturn a decision of the annual conference of the National Union of Mineworkers which narrowly rejected incentive schemes to raise output and wages.

Branch officials and committee members will meet next Wednesday and Mr Leonard Clarke, the area president, said last night that the meeting will recommend steps towards a secret ballot.

The levels at which party committees' functionaries are elected in the civil and military sectors has been laid down as county and regional work and disciplinary measures are made subject to the approval of higher party organs, and the provision for probationary membership has been made more strict.

The general tenor of the new statutes is to bring the party more into the centre of the political stage at all levels.

Mr Vance in Peking, page 4

Multiple sclerosis

How many more must suffer before we find the cure?

There are around 50,000 people in this country alone who suffer from Multiple Sclerosis. And sadly, it is often younger people—many with young children dependent on them—who seem most prone.

Multiple Sclerosis strikes without warning, apparently without reason. As yet we do not know the cause, yet alone the cure.

That's why we keep asking for money, so we can step up research and also help our 280 branches support those who already have this disabling disease.

One day with your help we will find the cause, and the cure. But until we do, those with MS must go on facing the prospect of growing disability.

There are many ways of giving. A money gift NOW; a legacy; a deed of covenant which increases what you give by over 50%. Or you could give some time to your local MSS branch. We'll gladly supply the address.

Just pop your letter or donation in an envelope and address it to:

The Multiple Sclerosis Society, Freepost 416, 4 Tachbrook Street, London, SW1V 1SJ

Help unlock the mystery of Multiple Sclerosis

Giro A/C No.: 5149335

The Multiple Sclerosis Society of Great Britain & N. Ireland. Registered as a charity in accordance with the National Assistance Act 1948.

Leyland to offer 32pc pay rise—but with strings

Leyland Cars will today reject demands from 20,000 workers at its Longbridge assembly plant, Birmingham, for a 32pc pay rise. Instead the management will offer a deal which could boost wages by £20 (32 per cent) over the next two years, but most of the money will be paid only after productivity increases and pay reforms are achieved. Meanwhile, hopes rise that the Lucas strike will be settled today.

Test of race Act

Mr Sikka, the Attorney General, is to decide whether anti-discrimination proposals, passed to him by the Commission for Racial Equality, contravene the Race Relations Act, 1976. His ruling will provide the first test of the Act, which does not require proof of deliberate intent to stir up hatred.

South Africa assures US on atom test

South Africa has assured the United States that it does not have an atomic bomb and does not intend developing nuclear explosive devices for any purpose. President Carter announced yesterday. He said the assurance was in response to an inquiry by his Administration after allegations about the test by France.

Anger in Pretoria, page 4

£50m tax evasion

Widespread evasion of car licence fees is costing the Exchequer about £50m a year in lost revenue, according to the AA magazine, Drive. The penalties for evasion are too low, it says, and there are not enough police to enforce the regulations.

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Kappler alert delay

The Italian Senate was told yesterday that the wife of former SS Colonel Herbert Kappler had been allowed, against standing orders, to drive a hired car into the courtyard of the Rome military hospital, thus facilitating the jailed war criminal's escape. His flight was discovered after nine hours and it took a further hour to alert carabinieri headquarters.

Business features

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HOME NEWS

White Paper possible before drafting of new information Bill

By Peter Hennessy

The Cabinet may publish a White Paper on government secrecy early in the next session before drafting its Official Information Bill as a replacement for section two of the Official Secrets Act, 1911.

Ministers are apprehensive about the Bill's reception in Parliament. It is felt in some quarters that there is no certainty of a majority for a new statute of any kind, given the composition of the present House of Commons.

The volatility of MPs on such matters as official secrecy and open government has led some ministers to canvass the suggestion that parliamentary opinion should be tested through a White Paper and a debate before a new Bill is prepared. They think it possible that a government Bill would emerge altered beyond recognition, with backbenchers forcing amendments along the lines of the American Freedom of Information Act, obliging ministers to disclose more information than they desired.

At the last meeting of the Cabinet committee on official secrecy, chaired by the Prime Minister before the summer recess, Mr Callaghan is thought to have indicated a personal preference for proceeding directly with a Bill. An undertaking to replace the catch-all section two of the Official Secrets Act, which forbids unauthorized disclosure of government information of any kind, is a prominent element of the Government's parliamentary pact with the Liberal Party.

Eusa delaying White Paper is rated most likely in Whitehall, though no definite decision has been taken either way. That will await the next meeting of the ministerial committee at the end of September or the beginning of October.

As reported in *The Times* earlier this month, the Cabinet committee has experienced great difficulty in drawing a line for the new "defence and

international, confidential" classification, beyond which unauthorized leaks would involve the sanction of criminal law. A wider philosophical uncertainty about the whole enterprise has bedevilled ministers since they have moved beyond general principles. Official secrecy is linked to industrial democracy in Whitehall as an issue on which no government can win whatever it decides to do, in terms of public response and parliamentary reception.

Some ministers have become convinced, by hostile newspaper reaction to the Home Secretary's announcement last November of the Government's intention to legislate, that far from being judged a liberal, reforming measure, a new Act might be regarded by those it was meant to aid as a regressive, repressive step. They have admitted that replacement of a crude but unusable law by a more limited, precise and practical statute might be the reverse of the progressive development they had intended.

Official secrecy has generally become confused with open government (the desire to disclose more information deliberately has been treated as a separate matter by ministers from attempts to prevent unintended revelation) and, to some extent, with privacy. The more cynical in Whitehall have long felt that political sensitivity rather than security has been the real brake on ministerial intentions and that the non-existent classification of "politically embarrassing" is of far more concern to them than any document labelled "top secret".

As part of the Government's policy of involving public opinion in the discussion of foreign affairs, Dr Owen, the Foreign Secretary, has invited several non-governmental organizations and individuals to a seminar next month to discuss the Helsinki conference on security and cooperation in Europe.

18 months' jail for smuggling liquid cannabis

Keith Woolnough, aged 25, from Salisbury, Wiltshire, pleaded guilty at Reading Crown Court yesterday to evading prohibition on 1,210 grams of liquid cannabis in April and was jailed for 18 months after having a similar offence taken into consideration.

Miss Cynthia Cruickshank, for the prosecution, said: "He said he got the cannabis in Bombay for about £850. He said others were involved but if he told the names of anybody he would be dead." She said Mr Woolnough also admitted having brought in a quantity of the drug last December, and having sold it at £100 an ounce in Clapham, London.

Mr John Reilly, for the defence, said Mr Woolnough was a drug addict. His mother worked in the office of the Prime Minister of Rhodesia "and is obviously a respectable person".

Eviction letters cause terror, MP tells court

Mr Thomas McMillan, Labour MP for Glasgow, Central, said at Glasgow Sheriff Court yesterday that eviction notices sent by a council were letters of terror.

Some of the notices caused old people fear and alarm. Mr McMillan was in court to fight for a widow who was being evicted.

He said that Mrs Maria Monaghan, aged 58, of Abercromby Street, Glasgow, had become a nervous wreck since Glasgow District Council had given her notice to quit her house in April.

Mrs Monaghan has rejected offers of three houses in other districts. She says the council has previously twice ordered her to move home.

Sheriff J. Irvine Smith gave the council permission to evict Mrs Monaghan, but suspended the order for five weeks so that she could talk to the council again.

Reprieve for calorie on slimming foods

By Hugh Clayton

Ministers announced a reprieve yesterday for the calorie on labels of slimming and other special foods. The rejected a recommendation from scientists that the joule should start to replace the calorie as a measure of energy on such labels next year.

The recommendation came from the Food Standards Commission, a body of scientists appointed by ministers, who usually accept its proposals for changes in the law. Their rejection of the joule has nothing to do with its merits compared with those of the calorie.

The committee was asked to examine calories and joules more than a year ago because the EEC had published rules about units of measurement about which eventually entail changes in British food labelling law.

Since then, however, the Community has introduced rules that make the background to the committee's study obsolete.

Last October the committee published the complex framework for a two-year programme in which the joule would gradually replace the calorie. It recommended that where as a gram of alcohol is taken to contribute seven kilocalories of energy, it should henceforth be considered to give 29 kilojoules.

Ministers have rejected the committee's plan because in its further pursuit of "harmonization" of food laws the EEC this year published a directive on foodstuffs for particular nutritional uses.

That cut across the terms of reference of the committee's investigation, and necessitated further study of the effects of EEC rules on British law. The committee was looking at the use of the joule for labelling, but in the light of the new directive the Government has decided to consider how it will affect the much wider Food and Drugs Act and comparable laws in Scotland and Northern Ireland.

It is not the first time that studies of changes in British food law required by EEC "harmonization" have been changed radically by further changes in the Community. In 1975 a study of date-marking of food arranged by the British Government was overtaken by EEC rules contrary to its recommendations.

Riot gear pledge for police facing football hooligans

Mr Charles Kelly, Chief Constable of Staffordshire, is ready to give his men riot shields and protective headgear when they face football hooligans.

"I will not have a single officer injured by hooligans for want of this equipment", he said yesterday. The equipment would be obtained very quickly if need arose.

He was speaking after several coaches carrying Stoke City supporters had been damaged

IBA approves programme showing attempt at suicide persuasion

Film of death-pill offer to be shown on TV

By Ian Bradley

The case of Yolande McShane, the controversial television programme that uses film taken secretly by the police, is to be shown on independent television tonight. The Independent Broadcasting Authority decided yesterday after a long delay to allow the film, the central figure in the film, to be given permission for it to be shown.

The 50-minute documentary, produced by Yorkshire Television, concerns Mrs McShane, who was found guilty in February

of aiding and abetting the attempted suicide of her mother, Mrs Edith Mott, aged 87, at a nursing home in Sussex.

Mrs McShane was said at her trial to have tried to persuade her mother to kill herself so that she could inherit money to help her with debts totalling £200,000. She was sentenced at Sussex Crown Court to two years' imprisonment. Last week Mrs Mott died, leaving Mrs McShane £40,000.

The main component of the television programme is a police point of prosecution

evidence at Mrs McShane's trial is a videotape film taken by a secret camera installed by the police in the nursing home where Mrs Mott was a patient.

The film runs for 3½ hours and has been edited down to 35 minutes for the programme. It shows Mrs McShane handing her mother tablets of the drug Nembutal concealed in a packet of sweets and pinning a note on her dress saying "Don't bungle it".

Sussex police made the film available to Yorkshire Television because they were impressed by the company's

handling of serious subjects in such documentaries as *Johnny Go Home*. Mrs McShane's trial was the first time that police film evidence has been used in open court as part of the prosecution case.

Mr Michael Deskin, editor of documentation at Yorkshire, welcomed the IBA's decision to allow the programme to be shown. He said that "as an extraordinary" documentary it "will cause anyone who sees it to think again about their own actions towards their elderly relatives".

£500,000 is available to Peace People

The Peace People Movement in Northern Ireland estimated yesterday that it could obtain funds of about £500,000 to help in bringing the province's divided communities closer together.

Figures released by the organization show that a trust set up in its name has received nearly £212,000, including £202,684 from the Norwegian peace prize awarded to Mrs Derry Williams and Miss Mairead Corrigan, leaders of the movement.

Of the rest, £4,425 came from Germany and £4,777 from other trusts and individual donations. Mr Clarah McKee, leader of the Peace People, said: "We estimate there is something in the region of £300,000 in Germany, Norway and North America which is on offer for special projects."

He said that 110 peace groups in Ulster would soon be producing a list of projects requiring funds. The trust has spent £75,000, of which £43,000 was for buying and renovating headquarters in Belfast.

An estimated £20,000 has been used to assist two struggling companies in Belfast and Londonderry, and £8,000 went in grants to community groups. The "escape route" pioneered by the Peace People last year to enable those involved in the dispute to start a new life outside Northern Ireland away from the influence of terrorist organizations has been used by more than 150 people, at a cost of more than £4,000.

'Financial Times' settlement recognizes basic defects in dispute procedures

By Tim Jones

Labour Reporter

The *Financial Times* appeared today for the first time since August 5 after an agreement with the National Graphical Association, the craft printing union, which admits that there are fundamental defects in the industry's dispute procedures.

Admitting those deficiencies, both parties to the dispute have undertaken to seek the advice of the Advisory Conciliation and Arbitration Service (Acas) on securing an effective procedure for resolving any further disagreements.

In particular, Acas officials will be asked to give advice on specific issues arising from the dispute, which was resolved when Mr Alan Hare, chief executive of the newspaper, and Mr Joe Wade, general secretary of the union, signed an agreement on Monday night.

The dispute arose when the management objected to union members alienating themselves on full pay. Although there was no formal agreement for that practice, a joint appeal committee decided earlier this month that it had been entered into openly and in good faith by the union's chapel (office branch) with the head printer in 1975.

The committee recommended that while negotiations were held money deducted by the management for time off should be deposited in a joint bank account pending final agreement.

NCA officials later took the view that the management should agree to revert to the status quo while negotiations

took place, but the management insisted that the appeals committee recommendations should be binding.

The agreement signed on Monday says the aid of Acas should be sought specifically on the issue of the status quo: the role of union and management representatives when acting as members of dispute committees; any other circumstances in which recommendations can or will be accepted as binding upon the parties at various stages of the industry's future dispute procedure.

The agreement states that in the event of any further disagreements that cannot be resolved by agreed procedures, Acas will be called in before any hostile action by either party.

Journalists in closed-shop strike offered peace plan

The Westminster Press newspaper group made an offer yesterday to journalists at Darlington who have been on strike for 11 weeks over a closed shop.

The group said it was willing to return to the status quo while efforts continued to find a working arrangement for journalists over the closed shop.

The dispute started when the group appointed a woman sub-editor who did not belong to the National Union of Journalists.

The offer was in a message to all 7,000 Westminster Press

employees from Mr John Barrett, managing director of the group. It said freedom of the press was not an industrial relations matter.

Conditions needed to preserve freedom of the press necessarily conflicted with the workings of the closed shop. No safeguards have been proposed to us which would effectively prevent a journalist from having the right to write ended by a union if a closed shop exists.

The management proposed that journalists' terms and conditions should be safeguarded by a binding independent review.

But it is understood that if they continue to take the nights off the money they would have lost in the past will be lodged in a joint account until a final agreement has been reached.

Yesterday, Mr Chrisde Marlin, aged 35, the village postmistress, said that she and her husband were worried. So were other young couples in the village.

"We moved from London four years ago to escape the pollution and noise of a big city but we have been treated with an even bigger monster on our doorstep", she said.

Radioactive watch to be kept on village

From Our Correspondent

Tests for radioactivity are to be made this week in the village of Ravensgill, a few miles from the Windscale nuclear plant in Cumbria. At the Windscale inquiry at Whitehaven yesterday the National Radiological Protection Board said it would take samples of dust from the air.

Earlier Mr Justice Parker, who is heading the inquiry, had suggested that sampling of dust from Ravensgill roads and houses should take place to try to assess villagers' fears that they might face a radiation hazard from the nuclear plant.

But after agreement with scientists attending the inquiry, the protection board said the action could be gained by most useful immediate information sampling dust outdoors.

The tests, expected to start tomorrow, will last at least a high-volume sampler will be used in a farmyard of two used, one at each end of the main street, and the samples will be analyzed by the board for traces of the radioactive elements plutonium and americium.

The inquiry had been told that radioactive particles could be blown towards the village from Ravensgill estuary, where it settles in silt after being discharged into the sea from Windscale.

Mr Justice Parker says he does not think villagers have anything to worry about, but he wants to make sure.

Yesterday, Mr Chrisde Marlin, aged 35, the village postmistress, said that she and her husband were worried. So were other young couples in the village.

"We moved from London four years ago to escape the pollution and noise of a big city but we have been treated with an even bigger monster on our doorstep", she said.

Judge says boys should be able to go to Spain

From Our Correspondent

Edinburgh: A Scottish judge has ruled that two children should be allowed to visit Spain to learn something about their heritage from their Spanish father.

José Campins, aged six, and his brother, Jaime, aged four, had been brought secretly out of Spain by their mother, who was later awarded their custody.

The mother, Mrs Sarah Campins, of Plock Drive, Musselburgh, was said at the Court of Session in Edinburgh to have got out of Spain on someone's passport.

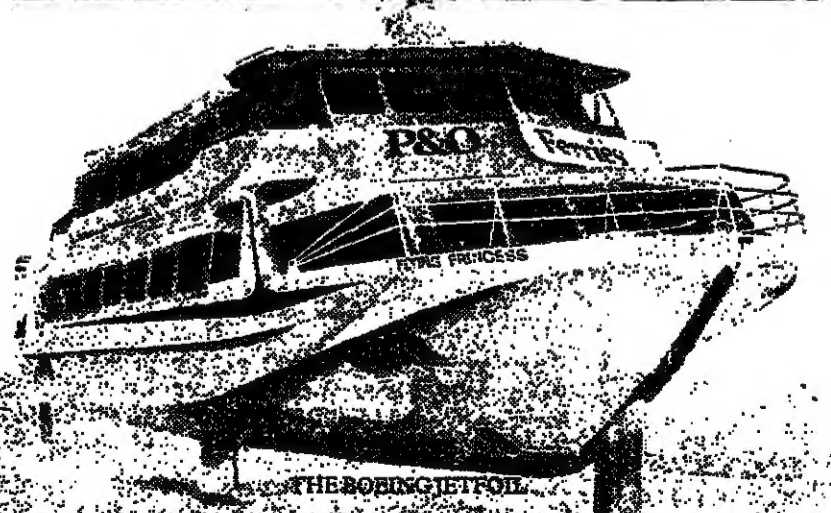
Their father, Mr Jaime Campins, aged 43, who owns a bar at Blanes, Gerona, asked for arrangements to be made for the boys to visit him.

Lord Stewart said the children were Spanish nationals and had their heritage of an ancient and proud culture. To cut them off from the country of their birth would be most unfortunate.

The visits must be of reasonable length. What he has in mind was four weeks in Spain every summer and two weeks at Christmas or Easter.

There was no doubt, he said, that Mrs Campins was an admirable mother.

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Scargill bail renewed

Mr Arthur Scargill, president of the National Union of Mineworkers, who faces two charges of obstruction arising from picketing of the Grunwick factory in north-west London had his bail of £50 renewed by Barrow magistrates yesterday. He did not appear.

He will appear at the court on September 27. News film may be shown at the trial. Mr Scargill was among 19 people who were due to appear yesterday in court for the same reasons until various dates in September.

Union accuses Government over air strike talks

Continued from page 1 British Airways cancelled 65 departures yesterday because of the dispute, 30 were from Heathrow, including six long-haul flights. Other regional airports were affected. The airline, which normally operates 200 services daily, has apparently drawn up contingency plans in the hope of operating half its services during the holiday strike, efforts being concentrated on European routes.

Most of the 1,400 controllers belong to the Institution of Professional Civil Servants, which is anxious to ensure that its members do strictly their own work.

The dispute goes back several years. In 1972 the Conservatives' income policy prevented a move to regrade the air traffic control assistants. A job-evaluation exercise led to agreement in the summer of 1975 but Labour's pay deal with the TUC for rises of 5% a week prevented its implementation.

Concorde cancelled: British Airways yesterday withdrew its Concorde flight to Washington (the Press Association reports). Passengers were transferred to a jumbo jet.

Twelve American passengers staged an all-night vigil at Heathrow when their flight to New York was delayed for 15 hours.

They arrived at Heathrow on Monday afternoon to be told that their British Airways flight had been cancelled. They were rebooked on another flight.

After sleeping on a seat, wrapped in a blanket, in the terminal three building all

night, one passenger, Mr Leonard Winograd, from Jersey City, said: "When we went on board we were told there could be a five-hour delay, but by 11.30 we were still sitting on the tarmac. After seven hours the crew told us we would have to get off because they had run out of hours and there was no catering left."

Another passenger said: "One passenger became distraught and his umbrella was broken in a scuffle."

Later they were rebooked on a Pan American flight.

Many long-distance passengers also faced a 10 to seven hours' flying with only sandwiches and fruit for meals yesterday because last week's pay dispute of 70 catering staff at British Airways' catering centre at Heathrow was still affecting supplies to aircraft.

Passengers were told that they could help themselves to food at airport buffet bars, but they were told to make do with sandwiches, cakes and fruit as soon as the aircraft had taken off.

Package tour operators were still hopeful that their weekend flights would continue to operate, but they expect delays.

Thomson Holidays said: "We are assuming that everyone will get off the ground. At present there is no question of cancelling holidays."

Townsend Thoresen said space was still available on Monday afternoon to be told that their British Airways flight had been cancelled. They were rebooked on another flight.

British Rail Sealink services, however, are becoming heavily booked.

Letters, page 15

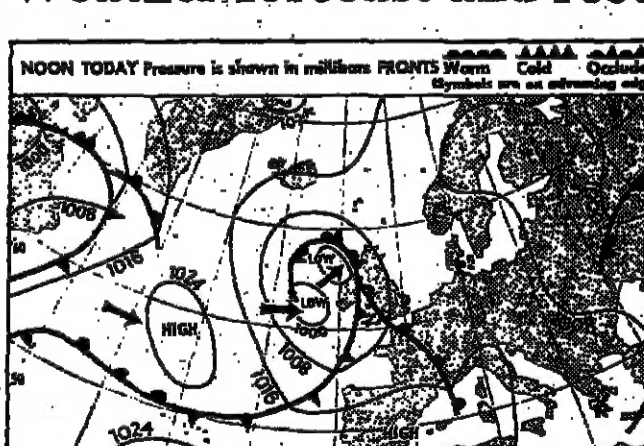
Rifles seized from house

Police officers seized two rifles, ammunition and other weapons after entering a barricaded house in Belgilau, Gwynedd, yesterday. A man was later taken to Denbigh mental hospital.

Woman hurt by horse

A driverless horse and cart ran through the town centre of Ayr, Scotland, yesterday, knocking down a woman and smashing into a van.

Weather forecast and recordings



NOON TODAY Pressure is shown in millibars. FRONTS Warm Cold Occluded

Today Sun rises: 5.0 am. Sun sets: 6.5 pm.

Moon rises: 12.57 am. Moon sets: 4.55 pm.

Full moon: August 28, 4.55 pm.

Lighting up: 8.35 pm to 5.32 am.

High water: London Bridge, 9.49 am, 6.2m (20.3ft); 10.29 pm, 6.3m (20.5ft).

Low water: London Bridge, 4.46 am, 10.1m (33.0ft); 3.37 pm, 10.3m (33.8ft).

Dover, 7.19 am, 5.6m (18.5ft); 8.0 pm, 5.5m (18.0ft).

Hull, 1.56 am, 5.1m (16.8ft); 2.42 pm, 5.2m (17.1ft).

Liverpool, 7.25 am, 7.8m (25.5ft); 8.5 pm, 8.2m (26.9ft).

A deep depression is approaching from the W with associated fronts crossing many parts.

Forecasts for 6 am to midnight: London, SE and E. Exposed, East Angles: Bright and dry at first increasing cloud, rain later; temp 20°C (68°F).

Central and N England, Midlands, Channel Islands: Becoming cloudy with rain; wind S, fresh; max temp 19°C (66°F).

SW England, Wales, Isle of Man, N Ireland: Heavy in places, hill and coastal fog, brighter later; wind SE, strong; temp 18°C (64°F).

NW England, Lake District, SW Scotland, Glasgow, Argyll: Becoming cloudy; rain, sleet, thunder.

WEATHER REPORTS YESTERDAY MIDDAY: C, cloud; F, fair; S, sun; M, shower.

Alps: C, 25; F, 20; S, 15; M, 10; T, 5; W, 0; Th, 0; F, 0; Sa, 0; Su, 0.

Amsterdam: C, 18; F, 13; S, 8; M, 3; T, 0; W, 0; Th, 0; F, 0; Sa, 0; Su, 0.

Birmingham: C, 18; F, 13; S, 8; M, 3; T, 0; W, 0; Th, 0; F, 0; Sa, 0; Su, 0.

Bombay: C, 30; F, 25; S, 20; M, 15; T, 10; W, 5; Th, 0; F, 0; Sa, 0; Su, 0.

Bombay: C, 30; F, 25; S, 20; M, 15; T, 10; W, 5; Th, 0; F, 0; Sa, 0; Su, 0.

Bombay: C, 30; F, 25; S, 20; M, 15; T, 10; W, 5; Th, 0; F, 0; Sa, 0; Su, 0.

Bombay: C, 30; F, 25; S, 20; M, 15; T, 10; W, 5; Th, 0; F, 0; Sa, 0; Su, 0.

Bombay: C, 30; F, 25; S, 20; M, 15; T, 10; W, 5; Th, 0; F, 0; Sa, 0; Su, 0.

3-Mile sky: bc-hazy, obscured; clearing; overcast; 1-2; 3-4; 5-6; 7-8; 9-10; 11-12; 13-14; 15-16; 17-18; 19-20; 21-22; 23-24; 25-26; 27-28; 29-30; 31-32; 33-34; 35-36; 37-38; 39-40; 41-42; 43-44; 45-46; 47-48; 49-50; 51-52; 53-54; 55-56; 57-58; 59-60; 61-62; 63-64; 65-66; 67-68; 69-70; 71-72; 73-74; 75-76; 77-78; 79-80; 81-82; 83-84; 85-86; 87-88; 89-90; 91-92; 93-94; 95-96; 97-98; 99-100; 101-102; 103-104; 105-106; 107-108; 109-110; 111-112; 113-114; 115-116; 117-118; 119-120; 121-122; 123-124; 125-126; 127-128; 129-130; 131-132; 133-134; 135-136; 137-138; 139-140; 141-142; 143-144; 145-146; 147-148; 149-150; 151-152; 153-154; 155-156; 157-158; 159-160; 161-162; 163-164; 165-166; 167-168; 169-170; 171-172; 173-174; 175-176; 177-178; 179-180; 181-182; 183-184; 185-186; 187-188; 189-190; 191-192; 193-194; 195-196; 197-198; 199-200; 201-202; 203-204; 205-206; 207-208; 209-210; 211-212; 213-214; 215-216; 217-218; 219-220; 221-222; 223-224; 225-226; 227-228; 229-230

WEST EUROPE

Chirac fear of return to the 'bad habits' of Fourth Republic

From Charles Hargrove
Paris, August 23

Al Jacques Chirac, the Gaullist leader and Mayor of Paris, has made it clear again that he means to keep his hands free in the coming election campaign to emerge from the polls next March as the unchallenged leader of the Government majority and dictate his terms to it.

In a television interview last night, he repeated that he was hostile to the notion of a binding and detailed common programme of the Government majority, which was supported by President Giscard d'Estaing in a speech in Carpentras in July. All M Chirac would accept was drawing up of a "manifesto" laying down certain general guidelines common to all three government parties.

The parties are to hold a fourth meeting tomorrow devoted specifically to this "manifesto".

M Chirac said that anything more binding by way of a programme of the Government majority for the next legislature would commit the future government and make it beholden to the parties. It would be a "return pure and simple to the bad habits of the Fourth Republic".

The Prime Minister did not play the part of a conciliator or umpire between the parties in the nomination of candidates. "It is the parties of the majority which reach agreement with one another".

President Giscard d'Estaing had in his Carpentras speech

specifically prescribed such a function for M Barre in preparation for the election.

M Chirac said that problems within the Government majority were those of "internal competition between the parties that make it up. But they are not fundamental, and this is the great difference with the left".

The Communists and Socialists were in agreement on nothing, "neither on defence, nor on the calendar of social measures, nor on nationalization". But agreement on the left would make progress. "The Socialist Party wants to come to power, but it can only do so with the support of the Communists. That is why the Communists are a very strong position and the Socialists, whatever they may say, will be compelled to give way, making their withdrawal with phrases."

The Socialist party is convinced that the explanation of the continued aggressiveness of the Communists is their inability to resign themselves to being no longer the leading party of the left.

M Louis Mermaz, a member of the Socialist Party Secretariat, said in a broadcast yesterday that the Communists tried by increasing their demands to recover their voting potential.

The political bureau of the Communist Party today called on the Socialists to reverse their decision not to hold any further discussions on points of difference in the updating of the common programme until the meeting of the leaders of the left in mid-September.

Italian prisoners with jobs call strike

From Peter Nichols
Rome, Aug 23

Reports from the prison world suggest that Thursday will bring an unprecedented strike of prisoners with jobs whom work for outside employers. They may be joined in their protest by their cell mates who do not have jobs.

The list of grievances is long and touches on the interests of the whole prison population, including demands for carrying out promised reforms and withdrawal of a decree which transferred responsibility for guarding the prisoners to a general of the carabinieri.

The decree was issued in May and since then a fundamental change has taken place in the system. Five prisons have been strengthened by measures of security and about 1,000 prisoners regarded as dangerous have been moved to them.

The remainder—some 33,000—remain in ordinary prisons under the double control of good behaviour. Some of the moved to one of the five strict security prisons, and fear that they might miss a proposed amnesty which has been under discussion for some weeks.

This double pressure is believed to be one of the reasons why this summer was free of large-scale revolts in the main prisons. Eight men escaped from Bergamo prison nine days ago and last night there was a brief rebellion in L'Aquila prison for using the telephone. But so far violent disorders have been avoided.

The working prisoners maintain that the failure to apply the reforms combined with the new system of external guards imposed by the general are little by little making conditions worse. They also allege "real mass deportations" of prisoners with political views or associated with the trade unions.

Their average report also covers the more familiar complaints concerning the failure to bring the code of penal procedure up to date, periods of

leave, health arrangements as well as the prisoners' workers' particular problems of pay and working conditions.

They reject as "intolerable" the arrangement by which employers give them up to a third less than the normal rate for their work while the balance goes to a body which is supposed to help victims of criminal acts.

There are indications that they may find support. The regulations governing their pay may in fact, it is thought, be unconstitutional. Some grievances are also being expressed at the innovations in the prison system involving mainly the ideas of the strict security prisons.

Few people doubt, however, that something drastic had to be done to prevent the hundreds of prison escapes a year and the more fundamental problem of the political indoctrination of prisoners by jailed terrorists.

The answer was to those five prisons which lent themselves to being more secure. The old Bourbon fortress of the Favignana, off the Sicilian coast, was the first known to have been chosen.

Then followed the Asinara prison on an island off the northern coast of Sardinia, Trani, Fossombrone and Cuneo.

Inside, the reorganization has been far-reaching. All metal objects which could be used as weapons, such as cutlery, have been replaced by plastic; plates and glasses are of paper; beds are fixed to the ground; and four prisoners is the maximum in one cell. Their exercise hours are kept to two a day and there is a glass screen when members of their family visit them.

Objections to these new arrangements are on two lines. The first is that an effect if not in theory a double prison system is being created with a somewhat ill-defined criterion for judging which prisoners should be moved to the strict security prisons. The second objection is that the whole idea is against the guiding lines of the reforms which the Government has yet to apply.

OVERSEAS

Vance monologue at talks in Peking

Peking, Aug 23.—Mr Cyrus Vance, the United States Secretary of State, and Mr Huang Hua, the Chinese Foreign Minister, today began talks on improving relations between their two countries.

But the State Department spokesman was unable to say whether Mr Vance had more than touched on the tricky questions of establishing full diplomatic ties and the closely-linked issue of Taiwan.

The Americans clearly hope for a more substantial Chinese contribution to the talks when they resume tomorrow. The American side regards the talks as a prelude to a bilateral summit but Mr Vance said at a banquet here last night that President Carter was committed to establishing full diplomatic ties with China.

The Chinese, however, have made it clear that such relations could only be established when the United States severed its diplomatic and military ties with Taiwan.

During the talks, which began yesterday, Mr Vance has delivered what amounted to a can foreign policy. The Chinese said they were through the first session, but the State Department spokesman said some questions had been asked of Mr Vance today when he dealt with Africa and Latin America.

The Chinese, who backed one of the losing factions in Angola, have bitterly attacked Soviet policy in Africa.

The American spokesman said the Chinese had also raised some questions when Mr Vance came up later today. Mr Vance felt the session so far had been "very businesslike, very serious and very useful."

Mr Vance lunched today in a restaurant that is a favourite of Mr Ten Hsiang-ping, the Communist Party Vice-Chairman, who was rehabilitated five weeks ago after 18 months in political exile.

Tonight it was disclosed that Mr Vance will have talks with Mr Teng tomorrow. They first met when the Secretary of State visited China as Chairman of the Rockefeller Foundation in October 1975.

The American side was also touched over questions on whether Mr Vance was likely to meet Chairman Hua Kuo-feng. It would be a snub for the Americans if such a meeting did not take place.

On July 30, Mr Hua met Mr Michael Kohn, chairman of the Communist Party of the United States.

After today's luncheon, Mr Huang Chen, the head of the Chinese liaison office in Washington, showed Mr Vance round a history museum, which traces revolution and class struggle as far back as the cave-men.—Reuters.



Shukri Mustapha, the leader of the sect, shouts a warning of divine retribution at the court yesterday.

51 members of Muslim sect on trial

From Our Correspondent
Cairo, Aug 23

Leading members of a clandestine extremist Muslim sect went on trial here today before a military tribunal on charges of kidnapping, murder and plotting to overthrow President Sadat's regime by force.

The hearings began at a military court in Abbassia barracks. The 51 defendants were brought there in handcuffs under stringent security measures.

The accused, including the leader of the sect, Shukri Mustapha, were formally charged with kidnapping and killing the former Religious Endowments Minister, Sheikh Hassan al-Zababi, last month, planting explosives in public places and plotting to change the regime by force.

All the defendants, who face sentences of either death or hard labour for life, pleaded not guilty.

As the bearded defendants, members of a group called the Society of Repentance and Reckart, were brought to the dock, they shouted: "Allah Akbar (God is great). Down with the state of sinners."

The group's teachings say that Egyptian society is one of heretics who have deviated from the doctrine of Islam and its Prophet Muhammad.

All the defendants alleged that they had been tortured during interrogation and the court refused to grant this request.

The court agreed to postpone the trial until September 5, to enable the defence lawyers to study the case and prepare their pleas.

Three more accused, sought by the police, are being tried in absentia, while more than 350 other members of the group in custody will face trial before other military tribunals. No date for their trials has been fixed yet.

Challenge to the PLO by West Bank lawyer

From Moshe Brilliant
Tel Aviv, Aug 23

An unprecedented call by a West Bank lawyer for a new national movement to challenge the Palestine Liberation Organization's recognition as sole representative of the Palestinian people raised eyebrows today but PLO supporters did not regard it as a threat nor Israeli as a promise.

Mr Yehoshua H. H. in his hands, exclaimed a woman in Ramallah, the West Bank city where Mr Hussein el-Shaykhi, the lawyer, now lives. An avowed PLO backer said: "Yehoshua (the PLO leader) is a symbol representing the Palestinian people. He is rejected by the population."

Israeli experts, on the other hand, said Mr Shaykhi had expressed views other Arabs whispered.

Mr Shaykhi, aged 35, was born in Hebron and obtained his law degree in Damascus. He was interviewed on Israeli television and in the Hebrew daily Maariv and will make his first public appearance at a press conference in Jerusalem tomorrow.

He admitted that he spoke only for himself at this time but said he planned to promote a grassroots of local support and then call a convention, probably in Beirut, of delegates from wherever Palestinians are living.

He was denounced today in PLO statements from Cairo. West Bank Arabs said he was an agent for the Jordanians who wanted to undermine the Arab summit resolution at Rabat recognizing the PLO as sole representative of the Palestinians.

A Palestinian said local Arabs had been puzzled recently when Jordanian television focused on him for 10 minutes as he led a delegation of Palestinians conveying their respects to King Hussein on his jubilee. "Now we understand," the Arab said. Some Palestinians said the lawyer was an agent for the Israeli security services.

Mr Shaykhi denied these assertions and said he was a novice in politics. He said that, like 99 per cent of the Palestinians, he had been silent for 10 years but he would now speak up.

Challenge to the PLO by West Bank lawyer

From Our Own Correspondent
Brussels, Aug 23

The EEC's condemnation of the policy of apartheid was expressed today by Mr Henri Simonet, president of the Community's Council of Ministers, at the western conference against apartheid held in Lagos under the auspices of the United Nations.

Mr Simonet said the recent disturbances in Soweto were "the tragic expression of the revolt of the majority of the South African population against apartheid."

He said the EEC would not only make sure his Government's policy was correctly understood by British Jews.

Sir Marcus Steff, one of those present at the meeting, said last night that he had found Mr Dayan's views "very reasonable and constructive," and that the talk had "clarified some things we were not fully clear about."

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Smith-Vorster meeting fixed for Saturday

From Our Own Correspondent
Johannesburg, Aug 23

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The Western nations are to seek South Africa's endorsement of the plan to help Angolan rebels to accept it, but in several critical statements, South African ministers have sharply criticized Western policy in southern Africa and, in particular, Washington pressure on Pretoria.

Silence in London and Washington on a claim by President Nyerere of Tanzania, that Britain and the United States were to agree with African states that the Rhodesian army would have to be disbanded and replaced by the guerrilla forces of the Patriotic Front during the settlement has led to strong criticism here.

Dr Nyerere's statement is confirmed, it seems unlikely that the South African Government will be willing to have any part in the Anglo-American plan.

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his United African Nations Council (UANC) in Rhodesia. Our Foreign Staff writes.

Speaking at a press conference in London before returning to Salisbury, Bishop Munro, who claims the support of 90 per cent of the people of Rhodesia, was emphatic that his resignation meant little to the strength of his organization.

The bishop made his comments after the resignation of the UANC vice-president, the fifth senior official, leave the council in the past month.

Bishop Muzorewa agreed that the five could have been seduced to the camp of rival, the Rev Ndabaningi Sithole, with promises of power in a government devised by the Rhodesian Government.

Salisbury electronics engineer Pieter van der Byl, the Rhodesian Foreign Minister, given a warning that if black politicians enter Smith's Government they in believe conspurciously or distastefully would use him.

Speaking at an election campaign meeting, he said: "I would like to see a constructive role and do not go to terrorism, they will continue with government. They must be given a chance to be elected at a moment's notice."

Mr van der Byl said that African ministers would be the same powers as white leagues. They would be to vote in cabinet—but, and who would use him right to vote in Parliament.

Border clash: Zambian Rhodesian troops exchanged fire for nearly two hours at the Zambezi river at the Gunda border post on Sunday night, a Zambian Government spokesman said here last night.

He said Rhodesian troops opened fire first at the Zambezi side of the border. The was reported. He said that the Rhodesian troops had been ordered to open fire.

He denied press reports that Rhodesian security forces had fired the lake-side resort Kariba on Sunday.

Front-line summit: President Nyerere will go to Lusaka today to meet Mr Botha, the South African Prime Minister, and Mr Vorster, the South African Foreign Minister.

Diplomatic sources in Lusaka said that leaders of the Zambian, Tanzanian, Mozambique, Botswana, Lesotho, Swaziland, and the United Kingdom would be present at the summit.

Agence France-Presse.

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New York police make 'blue film'

From Michael Leasman
New York, Aug 23

The phrase "blue films" has taken on a new meaning in New York. The Daily News revealed today that the city police, in an attempt to control the burgeoning pornography film industry, had gone into the business themselves.

The report said the police force's public morals division made a film "which included a vast array of sexual acts."

The object, according to one of those involved, was to infiltrate the business, see how the police shake down the film makers and work out ways into the system.

There is no suggestion that policemen took part in the film, which starred professional actors and actresses. But some officers are said to have assisted in the production and the film caused Michael Codd, the Police Commissioner, to order that the project be abandoned.

Mr Codd is said to have found out that one of the officers who watched the film being made was a woman. The police believe that organized crime is heavily involved in the lucrative business of showing pornographic films in the Times Square area of New York.

They have used similar undercover methods with success in the past—notably in trapping receivers of stolen property.

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Sixteen Ugandans appeared before a military tribunal in Kampala today, charged with plotting to overthrow the Government of President Amin last year. The alleged plot was discovered early this year, and the men have been under arrest since February.

The trial has begun with the deaths in Kampala of the Ugandan Minister Rev. James Mawhood, and two Ugandan ministers, soon after a selection of arms and ammunition allegedly smuggled into Uganda by the plotters had been displayed before representatives of the army in Kampala.

The Archbishop and the two ministers were arrested and (according to President Amin) died in a car crash while being taken for interrogation. Many Ugandans, however, have said that the men were killed by the army.

The 16 men now on trial relate to alleged meetings held in the house or the office of one of the dead ministers, Mr Charles Obbo-Othman, then Minister of Internal Affairs.

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Attacks by Somalis move nearer to Addis Ababa

Nairobi, Aug 23.—Somali guerrillas said today that they had killed nearly 1,000 Ethiopian soldiers in a battle for two towns in mountains south-west of Addis Ababa.

Mogadishu Radio quoted the Western Somali Liberation Front (WSLF) as saying its forces were still attacking the Ethiopian strongholds which are only 150 miles from Addis Ababa. This is the closest the month-long war over the Ogaden region has come to the Ethiopian capital.

The communique described five clashes around the towns of Goba and Ghar in Bale province. It said 989 Ethiopians had died and many others had been wounded. The WSLF did not disclose its own losses.

Diplomatic sources in Addis Ababa said there had been fighting in this area for the last nine months and it had intensified in recent weeks.

Like the inhabitants of the disputed Ogaden desert region to the east, the people of Bale are mainly Muslims. They are from the Oromo or Galla race, which is related to the Somalis, and Somali officials say the Oromo Liberation Front is now fighting with the WSLF.

The WSLF, issuing its first communique on the fighting for a week, hardly mentioned a big battle last week for the Ethiopian industrial centre of Dire Dawa, closer to the Somali border. Ethiopia said yesterday that it drove back a Somali assault backed by tanks and aircraft, and inflicted several hundred casualties on the Somalis.

Faced with guerrilla incursions to the east, north and south of Addis Ababa, the Ethiopian authorities have stepped up recruiting for their over-stressed armed forces.

Diplomatic sources said more men and women were being recruited, mostly for the "workers' militia" being trained at a huge camp outside Addis Ababa.

The all-Ethiopia trades union, in a statement quoted by Ethiopia radio, said workers who had not joined the militia would do the work of the militia for no extra money. It said a fund had been started to bring the recruits' wages up to what they would normally be earning.—Reuters.

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Mr Dayan briefs British Jews

By Edward Mortimer

Mr Moshe Dayan, the Israeli Foreign Minister, left London last night after a 24-hour visit, during which he had a two-hour meeting in the Israeli Embassy with a group of about 20 leading British Jews, to brief them on recent events in the Middle East and the new Israeli Government.

As far as is known he had no other meetings, although he gave interviews to British and Canadian television in which he again denied that he had come to London to meet King Hussein of Jordan (who is here on a private visit), and emphasized that in peace negotiations with the Arabs Israel is prepared to discuss any proposal they may make for the future of the West Bank of Jordan.

Asked why the Foreign Minister should make such a long journey simply to brief British Jews, an Israeli Embassy spokesman said that Mr Begin, the Prime Minister, attached great importance to the views of world Jewry. He had spoken to American Jews during his visit to the United States, and now he had sent Mr Dayan to make sure his Government's policy was correctly understood by British Jews.

Sir Marcus Steff, one of those present at the meeting, said last night that he had found Mr Dayan's views "very reasonable and constructive," and that the talk had "clarified some things we were not fully clear about."

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TRAVEL FAST
HOVERLOYD

Pretoria angry over A-test report

From Eric Marsden
Johannesburg, Aug 23

French allegations that South Africa is planning a nuclear test in the Kalahari desert have angered officials here. They are mystified by the renewal of the charges by M Louis de Guiringaud, the French Foreign Minister, days after South Africa's denial of the earlier Russian allegation of nuclear testing had been sent to him through the French Embassy in Pretoria.

Tass report was denied at the weekend by Mr R. F. Botha, the Foreign Minister, who said the allegations were unfounded and part of a campaign against South Africa.

He declined to add to his denial after hearing of M de Guiringaud's statement, but officials said South Africa was seeking clarification of the statement and had rejected allegations by French radio.

Mr Brand Fourie, the Secretary for Foreign Affairs, described the Paris reports as incomprehensible. He said the French Embassy had told him they had no knowledge of the statements and had added that Mr Botha's assurance that nuclear progress would be used for peaceful purposes only was being studied in Paris.

Mr Botha later described M de Guiringaud's statement as "unbelievable." He said M Jacques Schirck, the French Ambassador in Pretoria, had expressed surprise at the remarks because the French minister had been left in no doubt about South Africa's denial.

Paris: France was prepared to sever trade and diplomatic ties with South Africa if it carried out a nuclear test, officials said today.

They gave no indication of the source of M de Guiringaud's information when he said his Government had learnt that the South Africans were preparing to test a nuclear device, but sources said the warning to South Africa was made on the basis of information gleaned by American and Soviet spy satellites which had spotted test installations in the Kalahari desert in South-West Africa (Namibia).

Both: Herr Hans-Dietrich Genscher, the West German Foreign Minister, today called on South Africa to dispel all doubts about nuclear testing by signing the nuclear non-proliferation treaty.

The Hague: Mr Max van der Stoep, the Dutch Foreign Minister, was very concerned over the statement by M de Guiringaud that South Africa was preparing a nuclear test

SPORT

Football

Greenwood preaches a little humour

By Norman Fox
Football Correspondent

Ron Greenwood, the temporary England manager, yesterday revealed his desire to bring about a new "collective" spirit. Although his appointment is for a maximum of three months, the World Cup and one or two friendly matches clearly see his task as the foundation work in the rebuilding of the team on a club basis. On Saturday he watched Liverpool and spoke to their nine England internationals and yesterday he left the impression that he saw no reason against playing them all.

In his first press conference since succeeding Don Revie, whose name neither he nor any Football Association official mentioned in nearly an hour discussion, Mr Greenwood emphasized the importance he attached to having players who were on the same "wavelength". He said: "The secret of being an international player is to be able to improvise and adapt" and from everything he said there is reason to think

he would be delighted if the FA asked him to develop. His ideas after his period of temporary control.

Explaining his own position, he said: "Being a blunt Lancastrian, I asked the FA, when I accepted the job, if they could not have someone just to soak up all of the punishment for the next three months and if they could not have someone who is not a footballer. I do not think there would be any impediment as far as West Ham are concerned. I was asked to continue." Later the FA chairman, Professor Sir Harold Thompson, said the full list of applicants has not yet been made, but that the future would be discussed more deeply in the months ahead.

As well as hoping for "collective" among the players, he wanted to spread some humour. He admitted to being as serious and strict as anyone but said: "In this country in management

we tend to create intensity within ourselves. Since I gave up at West Ham as team manager I have not been in the mood for a light-heartedness. The players I have spoken to said that when Joe Mercer was caretaker manager there was a nice, happy spirit in the England squad."

Mr Greenwood's great interest in continental football is well known and he said that the main difference between the football there and in the Football League was that "around there they play it relatively simple". In England, he said, we play 22 different ways. Football is mental telepathy. Every team has different habits and under pressure the players revert to habit. He said this was an important problem, adding: "My point is that any team that wins the league is a successful one."

There will be no immediate change in the backroom staff around Mr Greenwood. He said: "I will be in charge of the team although I would love to be

involved with the under-21 and youth squads. At this stage that is not possible. Les Cocker will remain with the under-21 squad for the next two months. I did not feel it would be right to change any of the officials who assisted Mr Revie."

After saying that it was possible to be successful in such a short period he admitted hoping to "create a team that could be there for a time."

Sir Harold Thompson said: "We have chosen a man who is responsible; one who has thought it all out. If he loses all three matches we will still be right in our choice." Ted Croker, the secretary of the Football Association, said that the decision of the association was to appoint a temporary manager and then to advise. At yesterday's conference Mr Greenwood almost refused not to talk of the long term, but he did not doubt that the FA and the players have chosen a man of principle and would probably be pleased to retain him.

Wales's home tie likely to go on at Wembley

The Prime Minister was consoled yesterday when he finally gave up the idea of staging the World Cup qualifying match against Scotland at Wembley, Cardiff, on October 12. The match, which Wales must win if they are to stand a chance of reaching the finals in Argentina, looks certain to be switched to Wembley.

Seafarers' Union chairman Mr Callaghan said that in his constituency, Cardiff, the Welsh Office for a lack of "interest" and "sympathy".

Under the Safety of Sports Grounds Act the Cardiff attendance was cut by the South Glamorgan County Council to 15,000 and the Welsh Football Association had said that they would take the game elsewhere unless that figure was raised to at least 25,000.

In this is the saddest day in the history of Welsh football," Mr Callaghan said. "The capital city is being belittled by an Act of Parliament. The record attendance for a soccer game in North America was set at the last Commonwealth game in the North American league play-offs when 77,891 spectators packed the giants

Keegan blames poor form on playing centre forward

Hamburg, Aug. 23.—Kevin Keegan, the former Liverpool player who has yet to score after three league matches for his new club, SV Hamburg, blames his lack of success on being played out of position.

Keegan, who joined the West German club for £500,000 after he helped Liverpool win the European Cup, said: "I have never played in this position before. I put me in my old position for a month. I would show the Hamburg public what I'm worth."

Keegan's teammates and teammates after the opening match in the Bundesliga which Hamburg lost 5-2 away to Duisburg. Although he has improved since that match—Hamburg won the next two—he has yet to put his name on the scores sheet and critics feel he would be more effective playing in an attacking midfield position.

Agence-France Presse.

New York, Aug. 23.—Ticket sales for the New York Cosmos semi-final round game against the Rochester Lancers in New Jersey tomorrow night are near the 75,000 mark, the highest record attendance for a soccer game in North America was set at the last Commonwealth game in the North American league play-offs when 77,891 spectators packed the giants

Leeds say they will not hold on to Frank Gray

Frank Gray, Leeds United's Scotland under-21 international, who was in the team that won the FA Cup, said yesterday that he would not stay at Leeds.

After Mr Armfield had reported the matter to a board meeting at Leeds Road he said: "If anybody else can get him, I will be pleased to let him go. I have no objection to his leaving. I have no objection to his leaving. I have no objection to his leaving."

Mr Gray, who is 21, was in the team that won the FA Cup, but he was not in the team that won the FA Cup. He was not in the team that won the FA Cup. He was not in the team that won the FA Cup.

Cricket Declaration by Kanhai is thoroughly justified

By Alan Gibson
Bristol: Gloucestershire (4 pts) drew with Warwickshire (4).

A win for Gloucestershire would have taken them much nearer the championship of which their hearts are set, but it never looked probable. Not that they are out of it. In fact, they are out of it. In fact, they are out of it. In fact, they are out of it.



Yorkshire's win built around Lumb

Yorkshire gained a thrilling victory by five wickets on Lancashire after a day of frustration. In Lancashire's first innings, the batsmen were dismissed for 108 in the second innings, Yorkshire's spin bowlers operated effectively with Cusack taking six wickets for 37 and Cope, three for 28.

Yorkshire were left to make 177 in 134 minutes plus 20 overs and after Lancashire's dismissal at two, Boycott (35) and Hampshire (34) helped Lumb to add 78 and 76 for the second and third wickets.

Lumb's 77 (eight fours) in 182 minutes was an outstanding feat, and he was his highest innings of the season.

With James Kinn taking five wickets for 37, his best figures since joining Leamington, Lancashire scored 109, his third hundred of the season, the final day of this match was dominated by Pakistanis.

In spite of this pair's best innings, Lancashire were not able to reach maximum bowling points against Hampshire from a game which kept them hours through the weather in the first two days.

Today's football fixtures

Kick-off 7.30 unless stated.

First division
Aston Villa v Manchester City
Cardiff City v Birmingham City
Derby County v Nottingham Forest
Leeds United v West Bromwich Albion
Liverpool v Southampton
Manchester United v Coventry City
Sheff Wed v Ipswich Town

Second division
Blackburn Rovers v Tottenham Hotspur
Bristol City v Southampton
Sheff Wednesday v Ipswich Town

Third division
Lincoln City v Walsall

Fourth division
Aldershot v Stockport County

League Cup (First round replay)
Cardiff City v Torquay United

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Sussex v Hampshire

Sussex (4 pts) drew with Hampshire (4).

Sussex were in a strong position to win the match, but Hampshire's batsmen were dismissed for 108 in the second innings, Yorkshire's spin bowlers operated effectively with Cusack taking six wickets for 37 and Cope, three for 28.

Nottingham v Surrey

Nottingham (4 pts) drew with Surrey (4).

Nottingham were in a strong position to win the match, but Surrey's batsmen were dismissed for 108 in the second innings, Yorkshire's spin bowlers operated effectively with Cusack taking six wickets for 37 and Cope, three for 28.

Derbyshire v Worcester

Derbyshire (4 pts) drew with Worcester (4).

Derbyshire were in a strong position to win the match, but Worcester's batsmen were dismissed for 108 in the second innings, Yorkshire's spin bowlers operated effectively with Cusack taking six wickets for 37 and Cope, three for 28.

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Senhor Mortimore, leading light of Lisbon

It had not been a good week for the English in Portugal. In the European roller-hockey championships the English had lost to Portugal by 10 goals to 1, and ended the tournament in the humiliating position of being the only team losing all their matches. But that weekend, in a remote border town, Portugal's most celebrated Englishman, Mortimore, was in his element. He was in his element. He was in his element.

He was ready to lynch me on the terraces when we failed to win any of our first four games. Still, I think that one of the reasons that Continental clubs hire English coaches is that we do have a reputation for thinking of the club as a whole, not just the first team. I think that one of the reasons that Continental clubs hire English coaches is that we do have a reputation for thinking of the club as a whole, not just the first team.

of contract which allows for no compensation whatever if a player leaves a club on expiry of his contract. The club can obviously make a profit on the sale of a player, but the player is left with nothing. The club can obviously make a profit on the sale of a player, but the player is left with nothing.

Mortimore is about to begin his second season as manager of Benfica. He is in his element. He is in his element. He is in his element.

Mortimore's task is made harder still since many players who counted as Portuguese before the revolution were, in fact, subjects of the colonies. Angola, Guinea and Mozambique, where Eusebio, after all, came from, are now independent states, and although two members of Mortimore's first team who are former colonials can opt for Portuguese nationality, they are 21, if they do will end up in the army. Since Benfica's main objective is to win a European Cup, it is to win a European Cup, it is to win a European Cup.

Mushtaq resigns because of uncertain future

Mushtaq Mohammad resigned yesterday because of uncertainty surrounding his future. He was in his element. He was in his element. He was in his element.

Another Test bonus for all but Packer's men

England's players, except those who have signed for Kerry Packer, will again receive £1,000 each for the first Test match against Australia which starts at the Oval tomorrow. The same three sponsors as for the fourth Ashes Test, the Australian Cricket Board, the British and Irish Cricket Board, and the New Zealand Cricket Board, are providing the money.

Denness chosen to captain Far East tour

The former England captain, Michael Denness, has been chosen to lead a D. H. Robins party of players for a tour of the Far East. He was in his element. He was in his element. He was in his element.

Today's cricket

CHESHIRE: Lancashire v Gloucestershire. Lancashire won by 108 runs. Yorkshire's spin bowlers operated effectively with Cusack taking six wickets for 37 and Cope, three for 28.

Rugby Union

British contingent leaves for match in Johannesburg. The British contingent is leaving for Johannesburg. The British contingent is leaving for Johannesburg. The British contingent is leaving for Johannesburg.

Horse trials

Captain Phillips on short list for Europe. Captain Phillips is on the short list for Europe. Captain Phillips is on the short list for Europe. Captain Phillips is on the short list for Europe.

Captain Phillips on short list for Europe

By Pamela Macgregor-Morris. The current form, Captain Mark Phillips and Persian Holiday have been promoted to the short list of six by the selectors for the British team for the European Championships, at Barmby, next month. After their splendid performance in winning the Midlands Best Open event at Loughborough, they are expected to add this Lucinda Prior-Palmer to their list.

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SPORT

World Student Games

Andrews wins third track gold medal for United States

By Noel Hughes

Sofia, Aug. 23.—Only Tom Andrews, of the United States, stood against the United States in the final session of the athletics competition at the World Student Games here tonight. Andrews burst through and won the 500 metres hurdle final, but Eastern Europe scooped up the other five gold medals awarded in the first half of the last day's competition.

The compactly-built Andrews, from Los Angeles, California, came through after the final hurdle to beat Klaus Schonberger of East Germany, with the West German Rolf Ziegler taking third place.

"I'm tired after all that," Andrews said. "But I'm in good shape and I'm heading for Zurich tomorrow to join up with the US World Cup team."

Andrews had a time of 49.52 secs, a new games record, and the Americans might have taken first and second place in the final. Walker of the United States, who was disqualified for dragging his photo with Schonberger, only to be disqualified for dragging his photo.

The victory by Andrews was the third gold medal for the United States, still far behind the Soviet Union, who were predictably piling up clear at the top of the medal table.

Eno Selik, of the Soviet Union, won the 5,000 metres and another Soviet victory came from their sprint relay squad. Totka Kovacs, of Bulgaria, took the gold medal in the women's 1,500 metres.

Emmanuel Duguey, of Bulgaria, won the hammer final. Josef Plachy, of Czechoslovakia, won the 5,000 metres and another Soviet victory came from their sprint relay squad.

Totka Kovacs, of Bulgaria, took the gold medal in the women's 1,500 metres. Emmanuel Duguey, of Bulgaria, won the hammer final.

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Christine Tranter: fifth on the 1500 metres.

Christine Tranter, of the United States, was fifth in the 1,500 metres, with a time of 4:25.8.

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Golf

Shinnecock course in favour of Britain

By Peter Ryde
Golf Correspondent

Twenty-two victories to the United States, two to Britain and Ireland, and a tie at Baltimore in 1965; yet once again the Walker Cup fever mounts and speculation arises as to whether for the third time the impossible might happen on Friday and Saturday.

The original course was held there, the length of the course was less than 4,500 yards. Dunn won the Open there which, as in the early days in Belzen, was held during the same meeting, a mere afterthought to the Amateur.

Since then length has been added. This week it will be played somewhere near its full length of 6,700 yards, short even by Walker Cup standards, but still considered a fine test, though one that is seldom used for leading events because of its inaccessibility. This in spite of the fact that it is not over 100 miles from New York.

The parallel with St Andrews is not an accident. For the course is not a true linksland. It has undulating ground, dunes and thick turf, and is exposed to wind as all good links should be. Thus far the 10-man British team and their captain, Sandy Saddler, will feel at home. But the texture of the fairways, as in so many cases of seaside courses these days, is hard and dry. The fairways are narrow, the rough areas wiry and the greens, specially at the shorter par-four holes, well bunkered.

When the great Hogan played the course in the sixties he gave it the final accolade: "To me it is strange why so many courses should have deteriorated in their requirements of good golf shots. This is not true of Shinnecock; each hole is different and requires a great amount of skill to play it properly."

Only two holes extend to par-fives but several par-fours, though the short side are played into the prevailing wind.

Defending champion goes out in fourth round

Kerstin Ekstrand, the 18-year-old Swedish champion, caused the surprise of the day when she beat Gillian Stewart, the defending champion, in the fourth round of the British girls' championship at Forry Ladies yesterday.

Ekstrand was in control after winning three of the first six holes. She was still three up after 11 holes, but Miss Stewart came back, taking the 12th and 14th, where she holed out from 15ft for a birdie three. But she drove into the heather to lose the 15th.

Then, after winning the 16th with a birdie two, Miss Stewart was again in the heather at the 17th and lost the match to Ekstrand, the Scottish girls' champion, produced the day's best figures, being one under par when she beat Stewart.

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Rowing

Seven chances of British finalists

By Jim Railton

Britain's rowing crews competing here in the sixth world championships had only two crews on the water today fighting for their lives in the repechages. They came through once again with flying colours. Britain's single sculler, Tim Crooks, won today's repechage sculling comfortably ahead of Sweden and Denmark.

Since then length has been added. This week it will be played somewhere near its full length of 6,700 yards, short even by Walker Cup standards, but still considered a fine test, though one that is seldom used for leading events because of its inaccessibility. This in spite of the fact that it is not over 100 miles from New York.

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Tomorrow is a well earned rest day for competitors before the net tightens with repechages and semi-final rounds for women and men's lightweight crews on Thursday and the men's heavyweights on Friday.

Britain's women's team will now come under their greatest pressure and could be the first casualties of the regatta from a British point of view. While Astrid Ayling and Pauline Hart stand an exceptional chance of reaching Saturday's final, Lynn Clark and Beryl Mitchell, in coxless pairs, together with the women's coxed four and coxed quadruple four, face difficult repechages with only the first two moving forward to the final rounds in each case.

Britain's women's double scullers meet the Netherlands, West Germany, Hungary and the United States in their semi-final, but have demonstrated their class here already with a fine race in the heat to finish second to the Bulgarians. Lynn Clark and Beryl Mitchell, Britain's coxless pair, went off too fast in their heat last Saturday and consequently paid the penalty with poor steering, mainly from fatigue, in the last half of the race. They finished fourth out of the five crews. With only two to qualify for the final in the repechage on Thursday Clark and Mitchell meet Bulgaria, the United States and West Germany. They face a formidable task.

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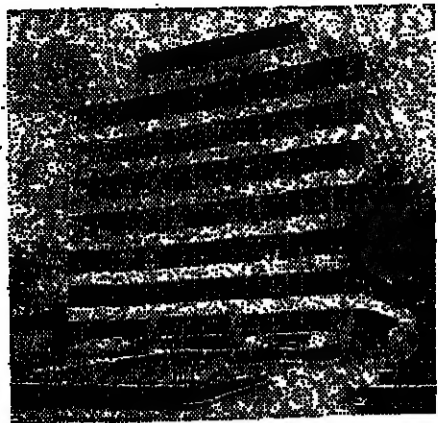
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BRIGHTON

Back in fashion with a new character

by John Young

It was never likely that Brighton would go the way of other English seaside resorts. Its architectural splendours, combined with its intangible but inescapable vitality, were all but guaranteed to save it from general decline.

True, there was a period between the wars when the town had ceased to be a fashionable watering place, and when it was in danger of acquiring a somewhat sleazy image, frequented by racecourse thugs and shabby detectives earning their fivers by posting themselves in hotel lobbies. Graham Greene's portrait of Brighton in the 1930s is not an attractive one; but when did Graham Greene ever enthuse about anywhere?

Again in the 1960s when package tours to Spain began to supplant the traditional fortnight at the seaside, it seemed headed for lean times. It was rescued by a number of factors, including political conferences, an influx of London commuters and the unforeseen enthusiasm of foreign visitors.

Since then Brighton has steadily capitalized on its advantages, and in the process has broadened and expanded its character with its superb situation between the downs and the sea, it is probably the nearest thing Britain has to the great continental resorts, and yet has managed to retain its essential Englishness.

The commuters began arriving in force 15 or 20 years ago, spurred by the realization that the rail service to London was faster and more convenient than from many places in the outer suburbs, and that Brighton was a much nicer place in which to spend weekends and to bring up a family. Their presence, and that of the tourists, have spawned a number of trendy, expensive and sometimes good shops and restaurants, and have led to an improved, if still not yet abundant, choice of musical and theatrical entertainment.

The annual invasion of trade unionists and politicians for their mammoth get-togethers stimulated the idea of turning the town into a year-round international conference and exhibition centre. Its lavish new com-

plex, built specifically for that purpose, has been energetically promoted and, if it is as successful as is hoped, the next need is likely to be for increased hotel accommodation.

But Brighton has not tied all its hopes to tourism. There are several new industrial estates scattered around the outskirts, and the town enjoys a natural advantage as the regional shopping centre for one of the wealthiest areas in Britain which contains no other towns of comparable size.

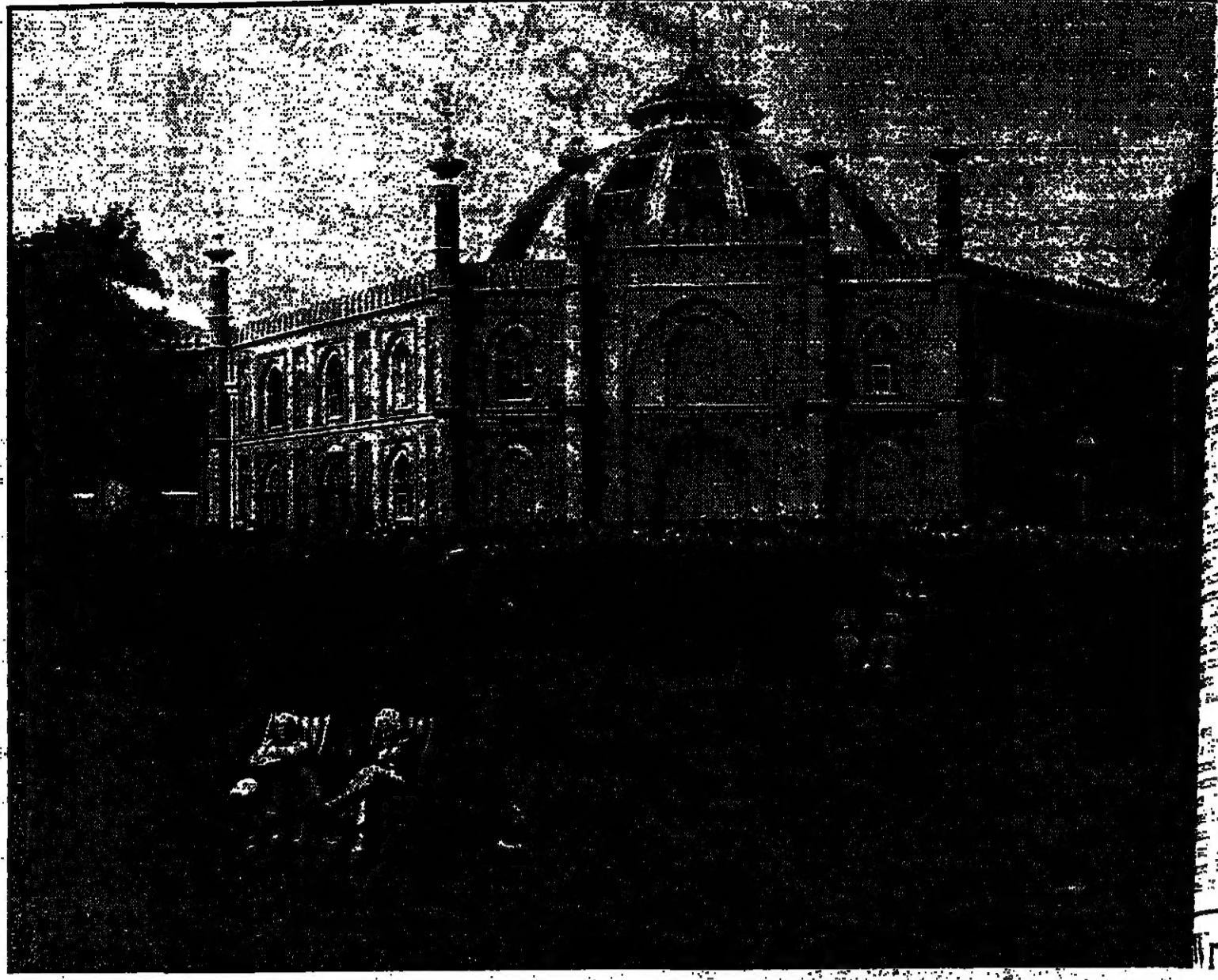
It has become a significant office centre, the latest development being the new European headquarters for American Express which contains some 300,000 sq ft of office space and will eventually employ more than 2,000 people.

There are, however, difficulties over further factory and office development. Brighton council, which is committed to a policy of growth and diversification, has for some time been at odds with East Sussex County Council which advocates strict control on further expansion, first in order to protect the adjacent countryside from creeping sprawl, and second in the hope of diverting investment to less prosperous towns such as Hastings.

Controls on office development have already created problems for existing firms which want to expand or consolidate. While there is no shortage of small-scale accommodation, vacant units of more than 30,000 sq ft are almost nonexistent.

But it would be a mistake to assume that Brighton's problems are solely those of unbridled prosperity. There are still near-slums within little more than a pebble's throw of the sea front, and unemployment is above the national average. Claims that this is largely because of an influx of people who find the Sussex coast a pleasant place to collect the dole are not entirely convincing.

Not everyone, moreover, is entirely happy with the council's frankly commercial approach. A vociferous conservation lobby, reinforced by middle-class newcomers, having lost the battle over the Marina and other sea-front developments, including the exhibition centre, which it considered undesirable, has turned its attention to more marginal issues like the future of the crumbling West Pier.



The Dome, part of the Royal Pavilion estate, is now used for conferences and other public functions.

Parsimony as elegant buildings crumble

by Diana Patt

The waterfront is an important part of Brighton's past and present. In Regency times the healthy could take to the sea, while the hypochondriacs were advised to drink the salt water.

Nowadays a great many swim, but only the footbray would drink the stuff. The bustling spirit of the resort which once accompanied the bold white stuccoed terraces is dying; today it is Brighton itself that is the sick old man of Sussex.

With one of its two piers threatened with extinction, with many of its once proud period buildings crumbling, Brighton today has a shabby air.

Do not be misled by the razzamazz of ice cream parlours, bingo halls, the nerveless skateboarders or the candyfloss stalls to be found between Palace Pier and West Pier, nor the Brighton rock shop that proclaims itself "by appointment to Charles II" and "Royal sweetmakers since 1672".

Brighton is a crumbling shell of its former self. With every year that passes, while businessmen and councillors argue, the listing piers come nearer to giving the elegant West Pier a burial at sea, thus ending its 111-year supporting career.

Two years ago, by way of bowing to the public and danger notices posted. A year ago Brighton Borough Council received reports that chunks of rusty iron work were falling from the pier on to the lower promenade and the area was cordoned off, now bisecting the promenade and the paddling pool and the puppet shows.

Preservationists produced detailed studies of how the pier could be rescued, and even made profitable, but for years their arguments have fallen on deaf ears. Now, however, a note of urgency has heightened the controversy.

AVP under barked by delays to its plans to renovate the pier and turn it into a simulated ocean liner, and asked by the council to pay the cost of repairs, has put its pier-owning subsidiary into liquidation.

Now Brighton Council has to decide whether to spend £2,000 on demolishing the portion of the pier over the promenade, thus disconnecting it from the shore, or £10,500 to make it safe and keep the options open on saving the whole pier.

In the dismal story of neglect, procrastination and indecision, there is still much to rejoice about in the town. Kemp Town's grandeur is undimmed and The Lanes, once seveneenth-century fishermen's cottages, now antique shops, bookshops, wine bars and pizza places are as entertaining to stroll or shop in as anything Bath can offer. And with one advantage: at Brighton, the sea is a pebble's throw away.

At the centre of The Lanes is the Brighton Square renewal scheme, where new houses and a rooftop restaurant blend happily in texture and scale with the

old buildings, offering a sympathetic example of urban renewal with the local authority in partnership with the private developer.

Unhappily elsewhere in the town the claims of the conservationist and the developer seem unable to co-exist. Away from the tourist honey-pot, many of the once grand buildings are cracking, fading or falling down. Even in important positions the buildings remain empty and derelict. It is estimated that 1,500 flats are unoccupied, many of them because controlled rents leave landlords with little chance for expensive renovation.

From a distance the elegant white houses sparkle like frosted wedding cake under flashbulbs. The stucco skin, which covers the walls of local materials (including beach pebbles), is cracked and damaged and the structure underneath is crumbling.

Incredibly the council, which is spending £5m on a conference, exhibition and entertainment centre, is to spare only £1,000 on conserving its houses.

The old town grants to householders needing to repair their houses, has been cut back over the years from £14,000 a year to 1977's figure, the lowest ever. This year the entire £1,000 has been spent on one house in Bedford Square after the front fell out, if the local authority continues to save only one house a year, by the year 2000 there will be little of the town still standing.

There are 15 nominated conservation areas in Brighton, but even Regency Square, an important position and with architecturally good façades, is in a bad structural state and with piecemeal renewal both good and bad.

Mr Peter Rose, a member of the Regency Society and a conservationist, says: "A thousand pounds is a totally inadequate amount to spend on conserving houses in a town of major architectural importance like Brighton."

"We have one magnificent building, otherwise the town depends for its effect on the large number of groups of buildings of merit. It is a town made for conserving a whole collection of buildings of merit."

The magnificent building, of course, is the Pavilion, the gilded fairytale palace built on the whim of George IV when he was Prince of Wales.

Today its museums and galleries are maintained to a very high standard by Brighton council. Visitors can wander freely through the many rooms, from the banqueting hall with its domed ceiling, representing an Eastern sky, partially obscured by the foliage of a scurvy tree, to the central planning tree, the extraordinary sum, for those days, of £5,613 9s, to the great kitchen, glowing with an array of 550 copper pans and utensils and with its bronze canopied open fireplace still in working order.

In the music room, the target of an arsonist two years ago, the red paint and the gilded dragons still gleam under their blackening of soot.

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Foreign tourists and students help to offset slump in bookings from Britons

Joyce Rackham

The jubilee lights blaze brightly along the Brighton seafront this summer, the day crowds strolling a look just as cosmopolitan as those to be seen window-shopping in London's Regent Street.

End. The foreign boom, so far as Brighton is concerned, is helping offset the slump in bookings from Britons, whose day economies are causing gloom in resorts everywhere. Tony Hewison, Brighton resort and conference director, estimates that about a million visitors stayed Brighton last year, and in five was foreign. This on the percentage is one third. Looking back on years begun in 1961, when total of foreign visitors only 3 per cent rising to per cent in 1972, the increase is significant, part from holiday and business visitors, an important source of revenue to the foreign students and English language schools, whose numbers this year are expected to reach 250,000. Local residents are telling jokes about odds against meeting an English-speaking native on a thoroughfare, and cars in the local paper get stuck to the paper.

Mr Hewison says: "When my job in 1972 I was convinced that Brighton must become international. Since then the local guide book has been written in English, French, German and all his languages. Information Bureau must be able to speak

at least one foreign language. He and his colleagues have done hard promotional work abroad to attract the tourists, in cooperation with the British Tourist Authority. The new Brighton Centre and the new Marina are providing a lot of interest internationally, and should add considerably to the resort's appeal.

For sporting visitors, the centre will provide a new arena for basketball, gymnastics, international tennis tournaments, five-a-side football, indoor rugby and hockey, and possibly archery. Brighton has ample facilities for such leisurely sports as croquet and bowling, as well as such energetic ones as tennis, sailing and golf with two municipal 18-hole courses.

For racers there is Brighton's own delightful course (founded in 1783) where 11 meetings are held from April to October.

The author of a nineteenth-century guide to the town wrote: "Bathing arrangements are by no means what they should be... increased facilities such as sheds... in which to dress or undress... are imperatively required." He criticized the immorality of bathing in the sea, relating that "to mitigate the evils, stringent measures... had to be adopted... all persons bathing are compelled to wear 'calecons de bain' (bathing drawers) or other suitable covering."

Today one still finds the familiar scene of bathers struggling to change modestly—though often comically—under their bathing towels, although locals tell gleefully of lovely couples who do not seem to worry, and of

the prospect of finding nudist bathers somewhere beyond Peasehaven. But the beaches remain without the kind of facilities to be found at many continental resorts, and there is still no open-air heated swimming pool—either municipal or at any hotel, although the often cold and fickle British climate certainly needs one.

Mr Alfred Fald, president of the local hoteliers' association and joint owner with his wife of the Norfolk Continental Hotel, says they eventually hope to build one there. He is among those who feel that a section of Brighton and Hove's seven miles of seafront would be far more attractive to visitors if a portion could be leased off to provide changing cabins, beach facilities and "decent catering" on commercial lines.

He also feels strongly about "the urgent need to get more civilized licensing hours", the present system greatly confusing foreign visitors.

Mr Geoffrey Irwin and his Greek wife run Vasso's in The Lanes, the first café-pub to be opened in Britain. He says: "After a long struggle we managed to obtain a licence to serve alcoholic drinks with or without food in licensing hours as an alternative to tea or coffee, and to allow children to be brought here at all times. High summer business—as a result mainly of foreign visitors—is good, after a depressing time in May and June."

Most numerous among the tourists are Western Europeans followed by Americans, Canadians and Australians, with an increasingly noticeable Arab influx. Mr Geoffrey Dalling, director of

Trust Houses Forte's Dudley Hotel in Here, said that a number of Arab guests come to stay while negotiating to buy properties locally.

While maintaining a high proportion of its regular British clientele, the Dudley also attracts what Mr Dalling calls "up-market foreign coach tours, with many from Holland and the Benelux."

With British visitors expecting an increasingly higher standard of accommodation, there are many welcome signs of improvement and upgrading of hotels. One of the most delightful seafront sights is the wedding-cake facade of the Grand Hotel, refurbished for jubilee year. This was opened in 1864, threatened with demolition less than 20 years ago—as the Royal Pavilion was in the 1840s—and saved by its owners' firm stand. Mr Paul Boswell, the director, says he plans to open a coffee shop and now night spot next spring, to appeal to the "more discerning executive market."

Brighton's ever-growing middle-income group of visitors should also benefit the better smaller hotels. A good example of restoration recently is at the 14-room Regency, now entirely decorated in the style of that period.

With a train service unique among resorts for its frequency (about every 15 minutes from London Victoria during the day, and hourly at night) Brighton is a magnet for millions of day visitors each year. It still has those traditional delights like candy floss on

the Palace Pier, not forgetting the Palace of Fun and those now antique machines and waterworks which proclaim "Mix majesty with murder" and an ornate Chinese clock selling 40 kinds of Brighton rock.

Gourmets can start with fish and chips by the sea, or eat in luxurious fish restaurants like Wheeler's or English's, or enjoy French cooking at Le Français (which was awarded a rosette in this year's *Guide Michelin*).

An Anglo-French newcomer, Le Grandgousier, includes a half-bottle of Rhone wine in its copious £4.95 set dinner, and Italian, Greek, Indian, Chinese, Danish and Persian cooking can be sampled in the town. There can be quenched in hundreds of pubs, or in good wine bars like the venerable Market Wine House, in The Lanes.

Reading phrases like "No petty restrictions; access to rooms at all times; keys provided" when browsing through a list of boarding houses, one wonders if that old-fashioned dragon, the tyrannical seaside landlady, still exists. Choosing at random, I rang the bell of the Madeira Guest House, not far from the Palace Pier, which was answered by an attractive young woman in a tiny beach dress.

"We are working hard to get good business", she says. Her guests all get keys, can use their rooms at any time, and have the choice of a traditional English breakfast or Swiss muesli health food. She says this is a rough season and, although foreign visitors have boosted trade, she still prefers British guests: "They are much sicker, and they make their own beds."

Wraps come off the £9m multi-purpose centre

Crosby will be one of first entertainers at the by-opened Brighton centre next month and will be bound to notice the 14s BC inscribed large on the wall and claim as his own. But lives so booked to entertain between now and then the folding will disappear the last of the paving as he laid and the people Brighton will be able to stock of their multi-use conference, exhibit and entertainment centre, which has cost £9m for which they will pay four pence a year.

In a prime position overlooking the sea, the centre, situated on "old" site by a "climatic" block of a "new" and dance hall and be other by the piered side of the Grand Hotel, which, Russell Diplock, director, having managed minor miracle to get it and happy with both.

Important contribution is the facing panels of concrete, containing natural spar aggregate, to reflect the sunlight have a white, seaside feel about them.

the first time since when the Top Rank closed, Brighton will be to welcome back the conservative and Labour conferences as well as national and international conferences.

main hall, which rises to three of the centre's levels, is enormous. Big to hold international or five-a-side football,

it has balconies on three sides with seating for 2,500 and additional retractable seating units to provide seating for another 2,500.

The structural steel-framed roof is one of the largest built since Olympia and the steel trusses which span the hall's 160ft had to be erected by the constructors, James Longley and Co., of Crawley, using four cranes and military trestling.

All the doors are sound insulated with magnetic seals at the perimeter and the roof has special insulation to prevent aircraft noise.

Some of the most advanced facilities in the country are provided for communication by the media with four camera rooms and eight interpreting rooms for simultaneous translation in eight languages. There are film projectors and movie cameras and Radio Brighton has its own control room.

Mr Tony Hewison, director of resort and conference services, who has toured Europe for ideas to make Brighton the conference capital of Britain, has opened a 10-year diary until 1987.

He forecasts the centre will have an enormous impact on the trade and business life of the town and estimates that the various conference facilities in Brighton will draw 150,000 delegates in a year.

"We have 120 bookings of all kinds for the next three or four years", he says. "We have already won 14 conferences which will bring

56,000 delegates and we are negotiating six others."

A secondary hall with 800 seats means the centre can be used for an exhibition and a conference under the same roof. As well as trade exhibitions, which will make full use of the 21,000 sq ft of exhibition space in the main hall, there are plans to attract the public with a model railway exhibition and a flower show.

The projected sports events include a gymnastic display, basketball, table tennis and indoor hockey, and even skateboarding, if a suitable floor surface can be laid down.

The kitchen and catering facilities are stainless steel and large scale, capable of preparing a banquet for 1,200. There are 14 lifts in the building, of which some are food and goods lifts which connect the kitchens on the various floors with the seaview restaurant, which has its own gas ovens and infra-red heaters as well as wine cooling cold room and bar.

The VIP suite has its own reception area and changing room and the artists who appear will appreciate luxurious changing rooms, showers and vanity units.

The cost of the centre has been high and the estimated outlay has risen, mainly because of inflation, from an estimated £5m to £9m with £1m in consultants' fees, but the return on investment is expected to be high. And big money could come from conferences. D.P.



You can still enjoy traditional delights on the Palace Pier, but the older and more aesthetically pleasing West Pier is almost derelict.

Beyond return—but disputes go on

Journalistically the story of the Brighton Marina has never been an easy one to follow and report. It only because it has gone on for so long. I recall, endless years ago, sitting on the beach at Black Rock long before the first load of chalk was scooped from the seabed, and remarking that the rather sad stretch of shingle that bordered the visitor was not quite the incomparable beauty spot that the scheme's opponents would have had us believe.

But strong, even violent passions had been aroused. The people's heritage, it was said, was about to be sacrificed.

Voices were raised claiming variously that the Marina would be an environmental disaster, would collapse in the first bad storm, would run out of money or, if you preferred, would make inordinate profits. At the public inquiry ordered by the late Mr Anthony Crosland in 1974, there was something slightly bizarre in seeing eminent QCs dusting off their files of complex legal submissions, while a mile or so away the concrete breakwaters were already thrusting out to sea.

On one point at least the objectors have been proved wrong already—namely, that the yacht harbour was merely an excuse for building luxury flats and other profitable ventures and that, once they were completed, the developers would conveniently run out of money with which to provide the promised amenities.

In fact quite the opposite has happened. The inner harbour is scheduled to open next month, and the outer basin should be finished early next summer, while not a single building has even been started.

The council claims credit for making the company stick to its announced plans. "We told them: 'You get on with building the harbour first, and then we'll talk about the other things,'" an official told me. But in fact there could have been no question of going ahead with any sort of development until the area had been dredged and infilled and the outer

breakwaters completed. As it stands, it is unquestionably a very impressive engineering project. It covers in all an area of about 126 acres and the central spine is more than 1,000 yds long and more than 80yds wide. The outer barriers, formed of 600-ton concrete caissons, partly filled with sand and water, appear impregnable to anything short of a tidal wave.

Between them the two harbours will provide berths for some 2,300 boats. The inner basin, to which access is by a lock through the central spine, is the smaller of the two. The outer basin, despite a 25 ft tidal rise and fall, will be accessible at all times and when I visited it recently it was as calm as any lagoon.

The marina contractor for the project is Taylor, Woodrow Construction, but the design and construction of the floating pontoons were subcontracted to Walcott, a Hampshire firm which built a new factory at Eastleigh specifically for the task.

The first buildings to be erected will be to provide services to yachtsmen, such as grocery and liquor stores, a ship's chandlery and a laundrette.

With the active support of the council, the possibility of a hydrofoil service to and from a French port, probably Dieppe, is being studied.

But the real test of public acceptability will come during the next few years, as the secondary stage of the project begins to take shape. After long and acrimonious arguments about size, scale and obstruction of the view from the cliffs, permission has finally been granted for 850 flats to be built on the central spine.

For the next few years heavy interest charges would certainly put the company well into the red, Mr Blackburn conceded, although there was no reason to expect an operating loss. But as a long-term property investment for the institutions which have so far provided the bulk of the £40m capital for the first stage, it was still a sound proposition. J.Y.

Teamwork and the changing face of Brighton



The Brighton Marina

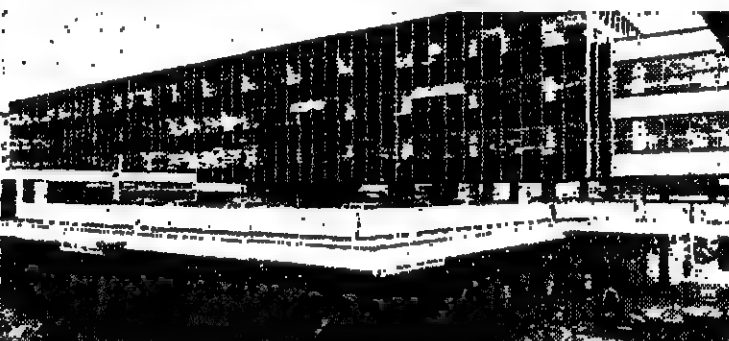
One hundred and ten caissons, each weighing up to 825 tons, were used to build the two breakwaters for the Marina. Using specially-developed techniques and machinery it is one of the major engineering feats undertaken in the UK this century.

Client: Brighton Marina Co. Ltd.
Architects: The Louis de Soissons Partnership in association with Overton & Partners.
Consulting Engineers: Lewis and Duvivier
Quantity Surveyors: G D Walford & Partners
Main Contractors: Taylor Woodrow Construction Limited

The Black Rock Interchange

The first phase of this new road system was started in 1973, and completed in 1977. It provides access to the Marina site during construction, eliminating right turns on the A259, and will eventually provide a complete gyratory traffic system with slip roads for traffic from the town centre and the Marina.

Client: Brighton Corporation
Consulting Engineers: Ove Arup & Partners
Main Contractors: Taylor Woodrow Construction Limited



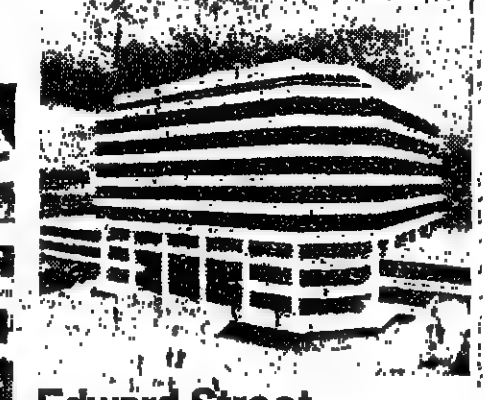
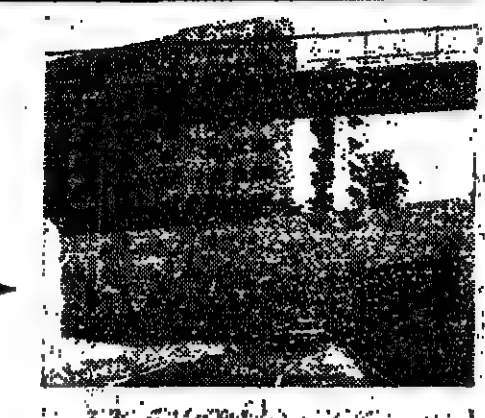
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Architects: Russell Diplock Associates
Quantity Surveyors: Rider Hunt & Partners
Main Contractors: Myton Limited

Taylor Woodrow

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Main Contractors: Taylor Woodrow Construction Limited

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Which are certainly much more comfortable, but often very boring to drive.

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THE AUTOMATIC TRANSMISSION SHOWN IS OPTIONAL.

An alarming postscript to The Times investigation into police bribery

Corruption at Scotland Yard: the biggest scandal of all has yet to be uncovered

"London policemen in bribe allegations. Tapes reveal planted evidence." On November 29, 1969, *The Times* published what seemed in those days to be an incredible story of corruption among Metropolitan Police detectives. The officers involved were not high-ranking. The money they had taken amounted to less than £500. Yet this was the most serious substantiated allegation of corruption made against Metropolitan officers for 40 years.

The basis of the evidence gathered by *The Times* reporters were conversations they had recorded between a petty south London criminal, Michael Perry, and three detectives who were taking money from him. Two were regional crime squad officers based at Scotland Yard. The third was a local sergeant, John Symonds, who worked from Camberwell. It was the Symonds conversations which gave the greatest cause for concern, for he was talking freely of a firm in a firm, a network of corrupt detectives throughout the Metropolitan Police district always ready to protect criminals in return for money. Symonds described this system with such assurance and in such detail that *The Times* was moved to state in its first leader that day, "it is important in justice to the Metropolitan Police, and in particular to the plain clothes branch, that the most stringent inquiry should now be made."

An inquiry was indeed set up. It took two forms. There was an internal investigation, initiated by Scotland Yard, immediately after the allegations were published. But 10 days later, in view of the "wide public interest" aroused by *The Times* report, Mr Callaghan, then Home Secretary, announced that "someone independent" should also be associated with the investigation—Frank Williamson, former Chief Constable of Cumbria and at that time HM Inspector for Constabulary (Crime).

Williamson was known to be a ruthless investigator of corruption and certainly would have carried out the most stringent inquiry if he had been put in sole charge. However, he was appointed merely to "advise" on *The Times* inquiry.

Neither Mr Callaghan's unique status in law nor the attitudes of the Yard chiefs of the day would allow him to direct or control it. Williamson made sure he brought in his own team of provincial officers to strengthen his efforts, but whenever he attempted to force home essential lines of investigation he was immobilized.

In this sense the "wide public interest" which had brought about his appointment in the first place was being flouted with impunity. The public's concern was only that there should be no cover-up at Scotland Yard. Yet the man the Yard chose to play the dominant role on most of the inquiry was one who, according to corrupt Det Chief Supt Bill Moody, was revealed in his own

trial at the Central Criminal Court earlier this year as, arguably, the most corrupt officer ever brought to justice in the entire history of the Metropolitan Police. At the very least when Moody was put in charge of *The Times* inquiry—May 1970—he was taking huge sums of money from Soho pornographers in his capacity as head of the Yard's obscene publications squad. While he was investigating the petty graft of wayward but lowly officers Moody was himself operating the most systematic, organized corruption ever uncovered in a British police force. So how and why Moody took control of *The Times* inquiry is itself a matter of intense public interest.

Another chief superintendent had originally been put in charge, Fred Lambert. He was given the task just because he was "top of the frame" in the DCS in C1 Department who happened to be on call for whatever major investigation came up on the day *The Times* came out. Lambert was not, in itself, an unfortunate for Lambert knew several of the implicated officers very well indeed. He informed his superiors but they seemed unconcerned about this debilitating personnel link. Lambert also reported that Williamson as soon as the outsider arrived. Williamson was shocked, but he knew there was nothing to be done about it. Lambert appeared able and willing to do the job thoroughly.

Already, however, the shady figure of Bill Moody was on the inquiry team, though not then as its head. Moody had taken over what became known as the "Nuneaton end" of the strange circumstances in which Michael Perry, the central figure in the original *Times* report, had been taken to Nuneaton in September, 1969, for questioning about a local robbery, only to make allegations there against Det Sgt John Symonds. That was two months before the publication of *The Times* own investigation.

In November, 1969, which appeared to confirm retrospectively Perry's allegations at Nuneaton. The Warwickshire force investigating the robbery decided to forward this information to *The Times* inquiry team. In December, 1969, neither Williamson nor Lambert had any idea of the significance of the "Nuneaton end" so far as Moody was concerned. But in fact Moody had a very personal reason for wishing to bottle it up. Perry had not been the only man who should have been taken to Nuneaton for questioning. Another man, Roy Brooks, had been arrested in Peckham on suspicion for the same offence. But Brooks had escaped in the place being flouted with impunity. The public's concern was only that there should be no cover-up at Scotland Yard. Yet the man the Yard chose to play the dominant role on most of the inquiry was one who, according to corrupt Det Chief Supt Bill Moody, was revealed in his own

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Illustration from the cover design by David King for *The Fall of Scotland Yard* by Martin Short, Barry Cox and John Shirley, A Penguin Special, published tomorrow, price 80p.

of the peace. Brooks would be no longer needed, therefore, for questioning.

But this Mr Holbert was no JP. He was a south-east Londoner who earned his living by "running" between Soho pornographers (and other criminals) and the policemen who were in their pay. He was Frankie Holbert, Little Frankie or Frankie the Barber, and one of his duties was carrying huge sums of money from notorious Soho figures such as Bernie Silver and James Humphreys to none other than DCS Bill Moody, head of the porn squad. So when *The Times* inquiry threatened to oust even the Holbert statement Moody had to move in. For if Holbert had been investigated by Fred Lambert or by men from Williamson's provincial team he might well have revealed the entire porn squad as early as Christmas 1969. Moody's swift footwork, however, put that development back by more than four years. At the time Moody must have thought he had prevented it for ever.

Moody appears to have told Holbert to leave London for several weeks until things quieted down. Holbert took a seaside break at Winchelsea, in Sussex, staying in a caravan which, ironically, had been based four years earlier from Bill Moody. By this manoeuvre the detective saved his own skin, but poor Frankie Holbert was not so lucky. In 1973 he was to commit suicide mysteriously only hours after being convicted on a petty pornography offence.

The unsatisfactory circum-

stances in which Lambert was dismissed from *The Times* inquiry in May 1970 are too complex to explain in this short article. But it is clear that, wherever faults Lambert may have had, his integrity is not in doubt. The official reason was Lambert's disturbed domestic situation, but in Moody's recent trial it emerged that the real reason may well have been Lambert's commitment to the Frank Williamson way of conducting *The Times* inquiry. When Commander Wally Virgo, Lambert's immediate superior, told him he was being taken off the inquiry Lambert says Virgo explained, "You have backed the wrong horse. You have backed Frank Williamson against your own senior officers."

Moody took over immediately but he retained charge of the obscene publications squad until August, 1970. A few months later Williamson moved on to other duties while his provincial aides returned to their respective forces. Williamson resigned from the inspectorate at the end of 1971, dismayed by the lack of concern with which the Home Office appeared to be treating his repeated assertions that corruption among Metropolitan detectives was not occasional but endemic. Bill Moody, meanwhile, stayed on *The Times* inquiry until the spring of 1972 when at last Robson and Harris, the two regional crime squad officers named by *The Times*, were convicted of corruption and sent to prison. However, during the final stages of the trial, the third man, John Sym-

onds, fled the country only a few weeks before he was himself due to appear at the Central Criminal Court. He had made no secret of his pending departure. He had sold his house, bought a motor caravan on HP and his girl friend had also sold her business. Strangely, no one looked at stop Symonds in open court. Moody was, of course, the officer in charge of this prosecution too.

So it took nearly two and a half years to secure the conviction of just two detectives. At one time there were about 30 Metropolitan officers on the inquiry team, yet they had come up with little substantial evidence to add to what *Times* reporters and a sound engineer with a few tape recorders had gathered in just four weeks in 1969. However, there is good reason to believe that had Williamson's five-man provincial team also carried out the inquiry, up to a dozen Metropolitan detectives would have been brought to trial. The way Scotland Yard handled the affair, both before and after Moody took charge, ensured that only the minimum would be achieved. Indeed, if it had not been for the unsinkable integrity of *The Times* reporters, Gerry Lloyd and Julian Mounsey, their tapes might also have been discredited as forgeries. In those circumstances even Robson and Harris would have been acquitted. Their ultimate conviction owed nothing to the Yard investigation. They were convicted in spite of it.

How then had Moody of all people been selected to protect over this undisciplined effort? It could have been merely because the blind tradition of established Yard procedure limited the choice to some 15 chief superintendents in C1 Department (the central office of the CID which was headed, from March, 1970, onwards, by Commander Wally Virgo). But of course any senior officer could have been chosen from any Yard department, not just the CID. It is still possible, though, that Moody was chosen because he was a proven grafter. That Moody fell upon the job by chance. A more alarming thought, which one would prefer to ignore, is that he might have been put there by others in the Yard hierarchy who perhaps knew he was corrupt, though they were not willing to admit it. Moody fell upon the job by chance. A more alarming thought, which one would prefer to ignore, is that he might have been put there by others in the Yard hierarchy who perhaps knew he was corrupt, though they were not willing to admit it.

There are many readers who may be thinking "why bother to take all this up again?" True it is all happened years ago. Moody is serving 12 years in prison, and so is his immediate superior for part of the time in question, Commander Virgo. Also the official wisdom now seems to be that Sir Robert

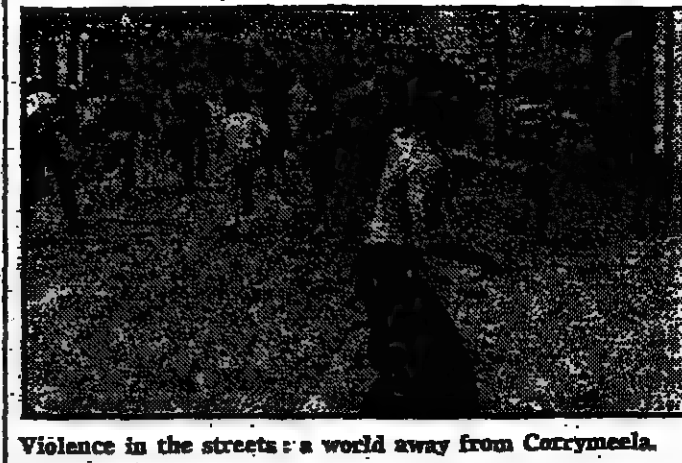
Mark's reforms have effectively abolished corruption. But in fact corruption remains a serious problem in the Metropolitan Police. In recent months new scandals have been uncovered which should destroy any complacency. There is also the external legacy of the Mark reforms. Some of the police officers who resigned under a cloud when Mark was commissioner, but who never faced prosecution, have gone on to hold top security jobs outside the force. Mark's grand boast of more than 400 men who chose resignation rather than disciplinary humiliation may have eased his own problems, but the rest of us outside the force—personal chiefs selecting key manpower, for instance—cannot always tell the difference between those who have retired honourably and the money others who have quit in ignominy. Corrupt men in security jobs can do as much damage to society as they used to cause in the Metropolitan Police. This problem Mark was not obliged to consider.

The biggest scandal of all still needs to be investigated. How is it that the scale of corruption revealed in the three recent Central Criminal Court corruption trials went unnoticed for so many years by those Yard men who ranked higher than Bill Moody, Wally Virgo and Commander K. Drury (the fallen head of the Flying Squad)? Was it because of blind trust or loyalty; or stupidity; or complacency. Were these men, later convicted, really so brilliant at concealing their rampant graft that none of their colleagues at Scotland Yard could see what was going on around them?

It is disappointing that no public figure—no Home Office minister or senior official, no police chief, indeed no newspaper editor either—has sought to establish a public inquiry into what all these convictions amount to, into the mystery of how this cancer of corruption penetrated London's detective mentality so deeply. In 1964 the Home Secretary of the day set up an inquiry "into the circumstances in which it was possible for Det Sgt Harold Gordon Challenger to continue on duty at a time when he appears to have been affected by the onset of mental illness." Thirteen years ago this more detective sergeant with some unfortunate luck-planning, a proposition merited a two-month public inquiry, well over one hundred witnesses and a 170-page published report. It is surely far more important today to establish an inquiry into the circumstances in which it was possible for DCS Alfred William Moody to be placed in charge of *The Times* inquiry when it was common knowledge among his junior colleagues, Soho pornographers and south London criminals that he was deeply, indeed rapaciously, corrupt.

Martin Short
© Times Newspapers Ltd 1977

How young Liam learnt that Protestants can be friends



Violence in the streets: a world away from Corrymeela.

Belfast
Last week, just a few months before the fourteenth birthday, Liam Dobson met a Protestant for the first time in his life. The result was not at all what either had been conditioned to expect. Within a day the two had become firm friends, determined somehow to continue their companionship across the bitter sectarian divisions which scar ordinary life in Belfast and stand stubbornly in the way of any sensible solution to the violence.

As a Roman Catholic and resident of Turf Lodge, unquestionably the most hard-line republican estate in the city, Liam had previously held rigid views about members of the opposite religion.

"I thought all Prods were big and tough and only out to get us Catholics," he explained. "Until I met John, I always said that if I ever caught his chest, but now I can see they are not really any different from us."

Describing his new friendship with boyish enthusiasm and not a little amazement, Liam went on: "To start with we talked a bit about religion. He knew about God, but he did not know who Our Lady was. He boasted that the Catholics in Belfast were outnumbered by the Protestants. But I told him that if the real fighting began the Army in the south would come in on our side. But after a bit we did not bother with things like that, we were too busy having a good time."

Any friendship between teenagers of opposing religions would be unusual in Belfast, but that was even more so because of John's own family background. He lives in Glengairn, a bleak, Protestant housing estate which has seen more than its share of violence.

Glengairn is one of the most notorious recruiting grounds for extreme loyalist paramilitary groups and so was where a number of Catholics have been found murdered, some with their throats slashed from ear to ear in a brutally ritualistic fashion.

Not surprisingly, initial contact between the two teenagers did not take place on their home territories, areas which fear has ensured are as rigorously segregated as almost any part of the world.

It was one of a number of similarly heartening relations which formed when a group of families from the two estates spent last week on holiday at Corrymeela. Described by one community worker as "the twentieth-century equivalent of a hospice", it is a unique ecumenical reconciliation centre based on the rugged Atrim cliffs, in surroundings which provide a complete contrast with the sordid back streets of Belfast 50 miles away.

For eight weeks every summer the centre arranges holidays for young people, reuniting friends who have deliberately severed from enclaves in the city which although adjacent, are as remote to members of the opposite religion as any foreign country.

The lady is one of the friends that have been reunited. She said: "She has as much to do next week. I cannot see honestly what I will ever do to go."

Christopher Wall

Putting poets on the shelf for posterity

Towards the end of 1877 Edison recorded Mary Had a Little Lamb. Since then, Arnold, Browning, Tennyson and Hardy have died; and it is unlikely that, between them, even an hour or so of their recordings remain.

I hold it as self-evident that this is a subject for regret, but one which, so far as present and future poets are concerned, would be neither difficult nor taxatious to mend.

Imagine 10 shelves, each 10ft long, holding 380 reels of 104in polystyrene recording tape. Had we, as a customary aspect of their publication, been able to record the roughly one and a half million lines of still-

wanted verse composed in English between 1300 and 1900 AD, that many tapes would retain them all with room to spare.

Today, the wholesale price of such tape is £5 a reel; three superior recording decks would cost £8,000; the construction of studio facilities about £3,000 more; the invention of a catalogue-retrieval system, the wages of the staff, an advance against royalties to each of the poets, and the annual running costs: perhaps £50,000 all told—rather less than the price of the laboratory doors on Concordia.

The library need not be physically independent. An adequate foundation grant might persuade the Institute of Recorded Sound to house and housekeep its stock together with the 200,000 discs, 40,000 tapes, and the collected songs of British birds and locomotives already in its care.

And because, if comprehensive, the library's ability to earn a part of its own keep is an advice on questions of copyright in performance and in reproduction should be sought at the outset.

I hope that by now any reader who recalls hearing or hearing of a cylinder cut by Hopkins or a disc by Kipling, say, is struggling to locate the echo.

Discoveries may follow the first librarian's appeal for historical stock.

The basis of the library will be its gradual acquisition of recordings by poets of their verse at the time of its publication. Should the practice become habitual, by 2077 we will have an interesting collection.

Printed texts will (at least for the present) continue to be the usual way of publishing verse. Near optimal system though it may be, print can represent verse only in part. To exclude certain factors involved in its composition because they cannot appear on a page is unintelligent.

How an author rhymed; what punctuation and lineage; the temporal values he gave to punctuation and lineage; how he projected a rhymical variety of what he made of a famous type of line in relation to its use by his predecessors; what pace and pitch he chose; how, for instance, Milton scanned "Rocks, caves, lakes, fens, bogs, dens, and shades of death,"—all opposed to "Immutability, immortal infancy," are things worth knowing.

Such questions are merely professional. Once founded the library will give much good pleasure to many people.

Paradise Lost entered the world not on the tip of Milton's nib but on that of his tongue. Shelley, they say, read in a harsh, unattractive voice. Tennyson played Celtic lute. Cummings, Lawrence, and Stevie Smith, on the other hand, are better heard than read. Kurt Schwitters, a German-born poet, was a poet who could only be heard.

And there is always the text. He will the librarian select for his first accession? That is a risk such experts have to take. I would advise him to begin with the oldest.

Christopher Logue

The rich aromatic, bittersweet chunks of Frank Cooper's Oxford Marmalade have made the British breakfast a matter of envy, the world over. Ever since Mrs. Cooper filled the first jars in 1874, the men of Oxford have spread its fame in the tropics, the New World as far as the Antarctic and Everest itself.

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FRANK COOPER'S
"OXFORD"
Coarse Cut
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Vole begins its quest for country persons

That heroic campaigner for real life, the writer Richard Boston, is to launch a magazine called *The Vole*. The title is derived from Boston's famous words in *Scoop*, where Evelyn Waugh has his anti-hero say: "I'm footed through the plucky few passes the questing vole."

Not surprisingly, the new magazine will concentrate on country matters—Mr Boston insists that the title is ironic and that he will not seek to emulate Boswell's prose. His argument for the venture is that all Britons are country persons at heart. Which may, or may not, explain the initial print order of a mere 20,000 copies.

The Vole's main concern will be with conservation and the environment. Mr Boston concedes that these are areas already covered by other publications, but he believes that the wide interest in them is a symptom of a new approach to life—an approach that he intends to reflect in his journal, the first issue of which is scheduled for September.

The vicar of a London W13 church, looking for a replacement curate, promises in his parish magazine to leave "no stone unturned in his search."

The long and short of success

I spent yesterday morning watching *Movie Maker's* 10 best amateur films of 1977. Two of them are good enough to be shown in cinemas—though, bearing in mind some of the commercial films I have suffered lately, may be this is a poor compliment.

The magazine's £500 first prize has gone to *The Worp Reaction*, made by Tony Telford, of Reath, Derbyshire. It is a perfectly realised film, running for 27 minutes, and it tells how a mentally sub-normal youth assembles a load of scrap and, inexplicably, levitates it.

It is original, whimsical and touching and the cinema chiefs must make it point of seeing it. The other "profession" amateur film I liked was a three and a half minute cartoon, *Four Views* by Sheila Graben.

Although her husband, Herbert Wilcox, has recently died, fans of Anna Neagle will be delighted to hear that she is shortly to return to the stage in the West End production of *Maggie*, the new musical version of Bernard Shaw's play *Widowers' Tears*.

The lyrics and music are by Michael Wild and the play will open in the provinces before coming on to the Shaftesbury Theatre. Dame Anna says that she will enjoy working in Billingham, Edinburgh and Newcastle before bringing the production to London.

is the debate's bible, the force and against everything from immigration to spelling reform. If you wanted to be cheerful, you could say that by making such a thorough job of listing opposed views, you remove the incentive for anyone to indulge in debate for themselves. I would dissent from that view. It is strategy that wins; wars; all that Mr Jacobson has done is to choose the battlefield and supply the ammunition.

Cloak and axe

I had decided to give myself a rest, but the latest issue of *Spaceflight*, the British Interplanetary Society Journal, has forced me to change my mind. The new issue must surely be the new world record for.

"Within two years of the first landing on the Moon... the sophisticated machinery of NASA found itself the whipping-boy of a government budget axe. Without a cause, it all but floundered. Project after project was cut under the new cloak of space worn by leaders who, a decade before, had ridden the champion horse of a technological boom."

Other more ominous clouds moved in on Nixon to justify the surety that he needed time to find his true resting place in history."

Two members of a Thames Water Authority working party on the possible restoration of salmon and sea trout to the River Thames are Mr Len Fisher and Mr Hugh Fish.

Tug of peace

We are about to repay part of our debt to China for having introduced us to tea, fireworks, silk and porcelain. At a fair and sports day on Highbury Fields, London, on September 4, the

Lazy man's aid? It's a debatable point

I have always thought that seeing the other fellow's point of view should be second nature for investigative writers. But I have not known all that many who practise it. A notable exception is a brilliant colleague of mine who has just put his talent for seeing both sides of an argument to excellent use. Michael Jacobson, broadcaster and former foreign correspondent, has edited the sixteenth edition of *Fres and Cons* (Routledge and Kegan Paul, £1.95p). This

Society of Anglo-Chinese Unions will initiate students from China in the mystic apple-bobbing, egg and sp. races, and coconut shies.

The students who are London to learn English, be invited to field a tug of team. We shall see how revolution thought, we them to pull together.

Under the title *Antony and Cleopatra* on a poster in the Midlands, a wax has written: "The biggest asp disaster in the world."

No entree

Diners' tales, like fisher should be treated with circumspection. These two true.

A reader ordered a rare, at a Yorkshire restaurant. The waiter returned 15 minutes and said: "Sorry, sir, but rare steak is off today."

A notice in the bar at cricket ground's *The Lone* says: "Gentlemen—if you be served in this bar, be dressed above the

"London Vampire Bat" *Knockout* said a *Piccadilly* Circus newspaper. *Poster* Alongside it was another saying: "Thirty Boelings Grounded."



WHICH BOMB IN SOUTH AFRICA?

South Africa was many years ago identified as an industrial country which would be capable of making nuclear weapons by the late seventies. But there seems no reason to reject the denials of the South African Government that they intend to test one. France has twice sent representations about it, and Germany has contributed the suggestion that the Republic should sign the non-proliferation self-denying ordinance. It is difficult to see what advantage South Africa would obtain from a test explosion, and it is not difficult to see why it would gain little from signing the treaty. Mr Vorster may possibly clarify the position today.

It is possible for South Africa to possess all the elements of a reliable atomic bomb without needing to test it, as indeed Israel is widely thought to have. The pertinent question is to what use, militarily or diplomatically, a bomb would be to South Africa, compared, for example, with Israel. No doubt a number of verkramp members of the National Party would get an unthinking emotional lift out of a demonstration that South Africa, too, possessed and could make the "ultimate weapon". But for what targets would it be designed? If South Africa's problem in the next few years is a

black insurrection of some sort, a nuclear bomb is useless to contain it—nor would it overawe the African mentality of this day and age. If the notion is that it would deter unfriendly neighbours—such as a Marxist Zimbabwe and Mozambique—from providing guerrilla bases, it is nonsense; nobody has used the nuclear deterrent for any such purpose. Moreover, to pose it as a threat in Africa presupposes the means of delivery.

On the other hand, South Africa is extremely vulnerable to counter-threats of nuclear retaliation; all its cities are within range of Russian nuclear submarines, for example. Whichever way the sum is added up, a South African nuclear arsenal makes no sense, and its possession would greatly increase convictions in the West, as well as in Africa, that pressure must be increased upon Pretoria to abandon its version of apartheid, as the basis of white supremacy, and move to power-sharing of some kind between all the races.

Mr R. F. Botha, the foreign minister, on his return from talks with Mr Vance and Dr Owen in London about Rhodesia, said that his government is increasingly convinced that "what Britain and the United States wanted of us would lead to our destruction". Evidently

apartheid as well as Rhodesia was discussed in London. Mr Botha was resisting western pressure for political change in South Africa, which was stepped up at the meeting in Vienna between Mr Mondale and Mr Vorster, who parted not the best of friends.

This pressure is taking several forms, including—at last—an arms embargo. Mr Guiringaud assured Africans on his recent trip, which ended so undiplomatically with a rowdy reception in Tanzania, that France was supplying no more arms of this type that can be used in civil warfare, and the Germans have again denied that they supply anything. South Africa is, by dint of past purchases, well armed; but these statements underline her isolation. It may be that the French and German governments have rushed them out in the fear that they will be blamed for complicity if South Africa tests a bomb. No doubt South Africa will reserve its sovereign rights to do as it pleases, but it would be counter-productive. Mr Vorster's problem is that his new political proposals for an inter-racial advisory council are plainly toothless, and have rightly been rejected. There is as yet no real sign of new thinking in Pretoria. The racial bomb meanwhile ticks away.

In the same way, the electorate (of whom the policeman should be broadly representative) is able to watch demonstrators perform at public marches, revealing as a group a cause or an ideology, responsibility or irresponsibility alike. Having judged that performance, the electorate may then exercise its choice. But if all such marches are banned, the opportunity for Police and public to think in shades is starkly reduced if not eliminated. Nobody demonstrating is now absolutely wrong. And Police are absolutely right. That is a dangerous state of affairs to feed authority. Yours faithfully, RICHARD WELLS, Superintendent, Hampshire Police Station, 261 Rosslyn Hill, NW3.

UNEMPLOYMENT AS A CONTINUING PROBLEM

This month's unemployment figures show once again the upward trend which has been clearly apparent since the spring. The rise is less steep than during the great recession of 1975 but it provides a gloomy background to the Government's efforts to persuade unions of the need to continue the policy of caution on which it is set. That background is made more difficult by the fact that there is no real prospect that the unemployment rate among adults, which remains the best guide to trends in the unemployment rate as a whole, will start to fall or even stop rising for several months yet. Most forecasts would predict an increase of the order of 200,000 in the total before it shows any signs of levelling off. In the longer term, it will be asked whether it is realistic to think of averting unacceptable levels of inflation without pursuing policies which would cause the level of unemployment to rise even higher.

The driving motor behind the rise in the increase in the workforce. This is most obviously apparent in the large number of school-leavers who now move straight from the classroom to the dole queue with a frightening prospect of remaining unemployed for many months to come. Although school-leavers are most severely affected, however, the problem is not one particular to them. Moreover if better means were found to remove the bias which exists against school-leavers in the labour market it would have to be done at the price of making workers who already have jobs redundant.

The real problem which the country will have to come to terms with is that we have clearly moved into a period where high unemployment is a permanent feature of our economy and society. Long periods of unemployment will be the lot of many, and as the years go by it will become obvious that this affects all age groups. Attempts to end the problem by

reflation would be bound to fail. Even if a government were willing to sacrifice everything on the inflation front, the cushion provided to our balance of payments by North Sea oil is not thick enough to allow enough expansion to make such a policy feasible. The gap between the growth rate which we could sustain and the growth rate which we would need to restore full employment is too great to be bridged.

Some things can be done to make the problem more bearable. There should be an emphasis on retraining and the learning of new skills so that job opportunities are not thrown away needlessly for shortage of skilled workers. There must also be continuing attention to the problems of the disadvantaged regions, where the situation has deteriorated considerably. These measures, however, can only make the symptoms slightly less painful. The unpalatable truth is that for the disease itself there is no cure in sight.

THE BALLOON OF SCOTTISH INDEPENDENCE

If all the British political parties with a significant following, the Scottish National Party comes nearest just now to presenting an impression of buoyancy and assurance. This impression is partly based on the relative remoteness of their prospect of assuming major responsibility or painful economic and social decisions, and partly on the signs of slackening momentum in their performance at the strict elections last spring. The party still controls only four out of 53 districts and is nowhere a dominant force in any major regional authority. But the air confidence remains and was evident yesterday when the party launched the autumn campaign which is intended to give a flying start in any early general election campaign. The spirit of the campaign is straight over all the awkward tangles of the devolution into contemplation of the money and prosperity of a free independent Scotland. Of use the party will not be taking a hand in the parliamentary bargaining over the fate the Government's proposals a Scottish assembly. But it little faith that such an attempt to reconcile irreconcilables will ever lead to what it

would regard as a worthwhile end. It prefers to look towards the time when a majority in the assembly or among Scottish MPs at Westminster, it can negotiate for something more substantial.

There is a danger in this. Much of the party's support has always come from voters who are less interested in independence (or even perhaps in devolution) than in casting their votes in a way that will focus anxious Westminster attention on Scotland and its problems. The latest unemployment figures show a rise in Scotland to a seasonally adjusted rate of 7.9 per cent, while the rate for Great Britain is 5.9 per cent. Evidence like this can only strengthen the SNP's attractions as a party of protest. But the more emphasis it puts on its ultimate ambitions, the more it risks losing the support of the faint-hearted. Fewer than 30 per cent of Scottish voters actually favour independence. To counteract this by dwelling colourfully on the alleged economic penalties of union with England, as the new campaign tends to, only risks appealing to the streak of primitive chauvinism in some of its supporters.

It is easy to see how arguments on similar lines could occupy

much of the attention of any Scottish assembly subordinate to Parliament. The new proposals for legislation that the Government made last month would be less likely to keep conflict simmering than the earlier Bill would have done, but any assembly financed by block grant with no power or responsibility of raising its own revenues will always be a forcing-house for grievances.

In the same way, the Government's continued insistence that the assembly must be elected on the first-past-the-post system would give the SNP an excellent chance of gaining a commanding majority in it with far less than half the votes. Mr William Wolfe claimed yesterday that the party would consider that it had a mandate to negotiate for independence as soon as it held 36 of the 71 Scottish parliamentary seats, regardless of the popular vote. "This is the system under which we are governed at the moment," he declared. Even a single MP wishing to secede is free to ask, no doubt. No United Kingdom Government would be obliged to accept such pretensions. But a Scottish assembly making a similar demand on no more solid a basis would carry the appearance of much greater weight.

Owner of the Stubbs

Mr G. E. Smith
Are all journalists cads? That can be more despicable than publish the name of the owner of Stubbs paintings who has a generous gesture to the public by his known wishes and told that his wife was annoyed by disclosure. No public interest possibly be served except to the morals of journalism. Sincerely, SMITH, 10, Essex.

ing offenders

the Director of the Howard for Penal Reform
Mr Whitelaw's stress on the for non-custodial measures for offenders is welcome, but his (August 17) gives the impression of being unconvincing, that leaves that he, and the courts, make a clear distinction between the small so-called "hard" who should be punished, and severity who need education or re-educational measures. The reality is, more complicated, are both persistent offenders egotistical or disturbed; some regard severe punishment as a of courage, and so on. may not fully appreciate that considerable extent the number have to be kept in secure moderation depends on the it and quality of non-custodial measures. By spending relatively sums on imaginative non-custodial measures, the government make far greater savings on buildings, and especially the

staffing, of institutions, secure or not. With adequate staffing, the cost is astronomical without it, the results are disastrous.

Mr Whitelaw, and other politicians, speak of the need for families to impose former discipline. This is true of some, but many young people get into trouble because their parents simply do not know how to cope, or have listened to too many exhortations to strictness, and hence inflicted excessive punishments or even turned their children out of the house.

Mr Whitelaw did, rightly, stress the need for individualized measures towards the end of his speech to NACRO; but in several recent speeches he has given prominence to talk of army-style "glasshouses", without, however, evidence (other than anecdotal) of their efficacy or their suitability in ordinary life. As a responsible politician he would be doing a service if he would place equally frequent stress on the complexity of the problem, and make people understand that wayward young people, even if temporarily sent away, will return to the community and remain its responsibility. Yours sincerely, MARTIN WRIGHT, Director, Howard League for Penal Reform, 125 Kensington Park Road, SE11.

Disclosing tax returns

From Dr Anthony Joseph
Sir, In general I agree with Sir Kenneth Corley's letter (August 13) regarding the views of trust in marriage apparently held by Mr. Joseph. However, Mr. Joseph, in his indignation with Mr Sedgwick, is not Sir Kenneth somewhat

observing a valid point of the former: namely that husbands currently enjoy a full knowledge of their wife's income (since they have to make the tax returns, save in special circumstances) but the reverse is not true. Both husbands and wives should be treated equally in these matters.

ANTHONY JOSEPH, 25 Westbourne Road, Edgmont, Birmingham.

A changing climate

From Mr David Edmundson
Sir, Your leading article about the weather (August 19) makes odd reading to a resident of what is supposed to be the wettest part of England. Although we had a wet spring, we are now enjoying yet another beautiful summer, with a repetition of last year's drought has been avoided by a few well-spaced days of rain. The last of these, over a fortnight ago, has saved the large number of us without mains water from anxiety about our water supplies; but our gardens need rain, frequently promised by the forecasters but never actually occurring.

Unless you publish some qualification to your article, which reads as though it applies to the whole country, some future research worker is going to find it difficult to reconcile your gloom with the records of sunshine in Morecambe which you print daily. Yours faithfully, DAVID EDMUNDSON, Middlefield Farm, Heathwaite Manor, Windermere.

Banning of street demonstrations

From Superintendent Richard Wells
Sir, Although it may seem ungrateful towards one who champions rights of police in demonstrations, I would take issue with Lord Duncan-Sandys's assertion (letter, August 17) that "all demonstration marches, without exception, should be banned".

It is not at all sure that simply because they are banned by law such marches would "happily be eliminated". Although it is likely that the fringe of demonstrators would be deterred, a mass might well intensify the desire of even moderate causes to take to the streets. The Police are then—rights or no—rights—the body responsible for dealing with what will be, in absolute terms, illegal with little choice of action.

Police training has in recent years sought to encourage the police officer to think in shades and degrees rather than in absolute terms. In the present situation that discretion is allowed to prevail. When the bricks and bottles begin to fly, although political philosophy does not rate high on the policeman's list of priorities, he nonetheless manages to retain a fairly clear head and does not lose sight of the fact that the demonstrators are a group of protesters who are otherwise law-abiding and responsible.

In the same way, the electorate (of whom the policeman should be broadly representative) is able to watch demonstrators perform at public marches, revealing as a group a cause or an ideology, responsibility or irresponsibility alike. Having judged that performance, the electorate may then exercise its choice.

But if all such marches are banned, the opportunity for Police and public to think in shades is starkly reduced if not eliminated. Nobody demonstrating is now absolutely wrong. And Police are absolutely right. That is a dangerous state of affairs to feed authority. Yours faithfully, RICHARD WELLS, Superintendent, Hampshire Police Station, 261 Rosslyn Hill, NW3.

From Mr Lance M. Heier
Sir, Freedom of speech is essential for democracy, as also is the right of assembly to hear and to speak. Freedom to march is not essential and is provocative, because movements of this kind are often violent.

Yours faithfully, LANCE M. HEIER, Stroke Wood House, Limpsley Stoke, Bath, Somerset.

Executions in Uganda

From Lady Daubeny and others
Sir, It is with the greatest distress that we read in *The Times* of August 18 that Mark Sebuhli, Dan Kintu and John Male have been executed by a military firing squad in Uganda.

It is impossible to imagine this happening in any other country in the world. We feel that it is essential to make a formal protest. Yours truly, MOLLY DABENY, IAN BARNES, JANET SZYMAM, JUDI DENCE, LAW MCKELLEN, 26 Chester Square, SW1, August 20.

Journalists' closed shop

From Mr E. Pannell
Sir, Many provincial newspapers are now in danger of disruption by journalists who are trying to enforce a closed shop at Darlington. As Editor of the *Darlington & Stockton Times*, I engaged the young woman whose decision not to join the NUJ was the immediate cause of the strike by that union. It has not been possible to produce a normal newspaper since August 5, though we have been able to post news summaries in a number of communities in our area.

The attempt to enforce a closed shop here will be seen in better perspective if I tell you that the full editorial staff of the *Darlington & Stockton Times* has a simple majority of Institute of Journalists members and that of those who are members of the NUJ four are trainees. My choice of editorial staff has been free of influence from any quarter and my staff have been quite free to join whichever union they wished. In producing a useful paper for the scattered towns and villages of North Yorkshire and South Durham, we depend upon the our readers for much of the news content. So our freedom of action in running the newspaper is complete.

All these freedoms will be destroyed by a closed shop leading to a monopoly of news. This is a bad and for most of us, it is too high a price to pay for extra hours' news. Yours faithfully, E. PANNELL, Editor, *Darlington & Stockton Times*, PO Box No 14, Priestgate, Darlington.

The Carter family tree

From Mr Philip Vennings
Sir, Like it or not we all owe our parents, eight great grandparents, 16 great great grandparents, 32 great great great grandparents, 64 great great great great grandparents, and so on back into the mists of time. In 1066—the year from which all good pedigrees date—the number of separate progenitors we can each theoretically claim reaches an astonishing 70,000,000,000 or so. Not only can we all be sure that some of our ancestors married their own distant relations; but anyone who is largely British descent can almost certainly claim some remote common ancestor with the man next door, the woman in Woolworths, or even President Carter himself. Yours faithfully, PHILIP VENNING, Old Wyke Farm, North End, NW2.

Dealing with confrontation over pay

From the General Secretary of the Civil and Public Services Association
Sir, It is not a novel situation for strike action by a group of workers to be indicted in a *Times* editorial. On this occasion the action of our members has been described as "a poor use of opportunity". It would be helpful for the unions if *The Times* would spell out the circumstances in which they would consider industrial action by workers to be significant and principled.

I am grateful that you have brought out in your editorial much of the factual background to the dispute but there are two points where I believe you misunderstood the nature of the agreement reached in 1975.

You say that "Agreements in mid-1975... were made in an unrealistic atmosphere". This was not true of the Air Traffic Control Assistants 1975 pay agreement. The agreement was based upon a claim submitted in 1972 which was based upon changes in job responsibilities for the Assistants over a period of years. As chairman of the CAA, Lord Boyd Carpenter said in a letter to the Government in April, 1976: "The job evaluation exercise was completed towards the end of the year and showed that there had been a major increase in the responsibilities of the Air Traffic Control Assistants as a whole over the years."

Secondly you argue there should be no question of backdating the agreement. This would be an invitation for everybody "to reach for all that they have foregone in the last two years". I do not see how this can be so. The fact that our members recommended to get on a Relativities Board. The incoming Labour Government, possibly equally understandably, rejected the specific conclusions regarding the miners' dispute and discarded the pay board machinery. This present dispute with the air traffic control assistants—and others which may follow, mainly in the public sector, such as the police, the firemen, the miners again, the railwaymen and even doctors and nurses—represents precisely the range of issues with which such a procedure was designed to deal, publicly and objectively.

To establish some machinery along these lines still seems likely to be the most practical course to follow. This would not only achieve common sense solutions to these comparatively few but deep-seated difficulties existing from changes in the public sector but also would reaffirm more generally the policy of incomes restraint to which most employers and employees—not to mention the Government, the CBI and the TUC—are only too ready to agree, provided the basis is fair and sustainable. The sound arguments which can be accepted by those concerned. Yours faithfully, JAMES BLAIR-CUNYNGHAME, Chairman, National and Commercial Banking Group Ltd, 36 St Andrew Square, Edinburgh.

Rules of pronunciation

From Professor Alan S. C. Ross
Sir, Mr Wright calls the English "is particularly rich in alternative pronunciations of equal authority" (*The Times*, August 19, 1977). I do not think that this is so; comparatively few words have two equally acceptable alternative pronunciations, all except a few. I could not point to very many. Certainly controversy is one (stress on first or second syllable). And *fanciful* must be another; the stress is on the second syllable, but the abbreviation of the word shows that it can also be on the first—otherwise the abbreviation would be *fan* and not *fan*. By the way, the word *fan* seems to hold the record for the number of acceptable alternative pronunciations. Yours etc, ALAN S. C. ROSS, 37 Phoenix Way, Southwick, Sussex, August 19.

Housing Green Paper

From Mr Bernard Kilroy
Sir, In seeing that the Housing Green Paper has ducked the main issue in its fourth chapter, Alex Henney is right. But he did not crystallise its paradox. The Green Paper says that the numerical housing shortage is ending and that the housing problem now affects a substantial minority of households or houses. Why, then, are we asking the Exchequer's subsidy bill, the price of houses and the proportion of capital funds absorbed by housing all increase to go on increasing in real terms for the next decade? Such a contradiction makes it extremely unconvincing for the Green Paper to argue that positive changes are not, after all, needed in the existing system, as Anthony Crossland believed—especially when, as it transpires, the Green Paper shows such little willingness to look these central issues straight in the face.

On subsidies, the background suffers to the DOE's Review (as disclosed by *The Times*) of August 10, showed that the cost of general assistance in subsidies or mortgage tax relief would together increase by some 30 per cent in real terms over the next decade to some £2,000 million annually to some £3,000 million. The trend is not reversed because, in spite of the authors of tables in the Green Paper and its three technical annexes (TV), no subsidy forecast has been published.

The Green Paper's proposals are unlikely to reduce the original problem although there would now be some shift in proportions from the public to the private sector. How can one have faith in the belief that subsidies will only increase slowly if interest rates stabilise? For the original calculations were also presumably made with similarly modest assumptions about future interest rates.

On house prices, the Green Paper itself admits that they are likely to rise moderately in real terms (TV Ch 3) as real income rises slowly and, with them, housing demand.

Value of regular homework

From Mr J. W. Barrett
Sir, As head of a comprehensive school with 1,600 pupils I cannot let Ronald Dahl's views about homework (August 20) pass without comment. Throughout this year of the "great debate" we have had to put up with a large number of untrained generalisations from well-known personalities who feel competent to dabble in education and whose views appear in correspondence columns because they are well known in other fields. It simply is not true that all comprehensive schools do not give regular homework; in recent years I have taught in such schools on the South Coast, the North East and now on Humberdale, and the value and necessity of giving regular homework has been recognized by all the teachers concerned.

Obviously there are good and bad comprehensive schools. Our school is lucky to be in an area where we get a good cross-section of society and of giving a stable and dedicated staff. These conditions are reflected in our recent "A" level results where we obtained an 83 per cent pass rate from 124 subject entries. This could not have been achieved at home; we had not been so regularly and conscientiously marked by staff. There are also good and bad public and grammar schools; I have been a GCE examiner in mathematics for several years and I can assure you that there is a tremendous variation in standards of achievement from such schools.

As I am writing this letter I notice that my young daughter who attends a state school is reading one of Ronald Dahl's books. The television set remains firmly switched off by choice. Yours faithfully, J. W. BARRETT, The Lansley School, Cleethorpe, South Humberdale, August 20.

From Miss Sarah Tatum
Sir, No homework, says Ronald Dahl? (August 20). I am 13 and I go to Havering Comprehensive school. It has a set homework timetable. We all have a little book called a "day book". In this we write down our homework for each night. (There is a minimum for each year group.)

It is like a diary. In the front it gives the homework set-up, school rules, holidays, etc. At the end of each week our parents sign it then our tutor signs it. Our teachers do take the trouble to mark our homework.

Ronald Dahl has spoken to children from comprehensive schools who say that they get no homework. Are they pulling his leg?

My mother went to a public school, she got too much homework. As my father is a doctor he is so anxious for children to work such long hours? Yours faithfully, Sarah Tatum, Friends House, Easton Road, NW1.

'Enigma Variations'

From Mrs A. A. Kirtick
Sir, With the greatest respect to Mr Raymond Leppard and his discovery of a similarity between the theme of Elgar's *Enigma Variations* and the theme of the *Requiem*, C. V. Stanford's *Requiem*, I should like to point out a very much stronger resemblance between the Stanford theme and the Credo of Beethoven's *Mass Solemnis*. Indeed, they are almost identical.

Elgar must have known the *Requiem*, and this would surely have been a much more likely source of inspiration for the "Enigma" theme—if that is, any such source is deemed necessary.

It does seem to me that any similarity between the Elgar and Stanford themes is quite fortuitous—a start on is a minor key and the other two major, and the rhythm, especially in the second bar, is totally different. Yours faithfully, A. A. KIRTIK, 41 Bath Way, Wansley Park, Middlesex, August 20.

From Mr David Mellor
Sir, I was surprised the "revelation" concerning Raymond Leppard's theory of the origins of Elgar's *Enigma Variations* was accorded a page status as it is, it is by no means new. On Thursday, October 19, 1972, Mr Leppard conducted the LPO in a performance of the *Enigma* at the Royal Festival Hall. Before the performance he announced that "Stanford theory" to the assembled audience, and then took the LPO through the Stanford theme. The "revelation" received a polite ripple of applause (and gasps) and I am sure to say, if my memory serves me right, was passed by at least one leading critic the next day with the words "Not good enough, Mr Leppard". Yours faithfully, DAVID MELLOR, 16 Chertwell, 30 Parkside, SW19, August 20.

From Mr Miles Amherst
Sir, Stanford's *Requiem* was performed in Cambridge in 1952 by the CBS Chorus, conducted by Boris Ord. This similarity between the *Requiem* and the *Enigma* theme was remarked on at the time. Yours faithfully, MILES AMHERST, From The Abbey School, Tewkesbury, Gloucestershire, August 20.

The spread of kissing

From the Rev Jay Lennard
Sir, "Greet one another with the kiss of peace." (Romans 16 v 16.) How Paul would have relished writing to *The Times*! Yours, etc, JAY LENNARD, Birkbeck Station Cottage, Kelson, Scotland, August 22.

هكمان النحل

Civil servants with their heads in the clouds

This week's guest column is by airline captain Omar Malik.

Heroes of the Air are no longer wanted. Today the regular and safe operation of aeroplanes is the product of a complex and very costly process, the final stage of which is in the hands of the pilot. The flying skills required of him are probably neither greater nor less than were required of previous generations of pilots, but the earlier attributes of faith and hope have been supplanted by that of technical knowledge, and the earlier requirement for courage, particularly the blind variety, is anachronism. An airline pilot is now an air-borne managing director; his duty is to obviate the need for heroics, not to indulge in them.

Both the internal systems of aircraft—flight controls, instrumentation, navigation computers, et al, and the external support systems—engineering, air traffic control, flight planning and so on, have so increased in complexity that they are comprehensible only to the appropriate specialist. The pilot understands little of the internal workings of the systems; he concentrates his attention upon extracting from them the outputs he requires for the progress of his flight.

Systems do not respond to individualistic approaches but to the correct set of inputs. Hence the total domination of our lives by standard operating procedures, flying manuals and checklists, (we now carry checklists of the checklists). This systemization is a mixed blessing; without it we could not cope with modern aircraft, with it the pilot's task has become more demanding. In addition to the traditional need for flying accuracy, has come a requirement to sort through a mass of data continuously presented and using it to review and update the available courses of action. This involves continually switching attention from the immediate task of maintaining the correct flight-path to the long-term task of obtaining an expeditious arrival at destination.

Any failing of the total system, whether of aircraft manufacture, of maintenance, of air-field facility or of air traffic control must be supervised by the human skill of the pilot. If he is presented with a complex of deficiencies which is beyond his capacity to absorb, then the safe progress of the aircraft is compromised. Hence pilots' increasing concern with the administration of aviation.

The manufacture of aircraft and the operation of airlines are matters of national importance.

Control has therefore moved steadily into the hands of government departments—the Department of Trade, the Civil Aviation Authority and the British Airports Authority; it is therefore passing from the operators and manufacturers to the civil servants and the politicians. The issue raised is not that of nationalization, but of the increasing remoteness of those who enact the rules from those who have to apply them. Escalating costs, national interests and political overtones constitute greater pressures upon the authorities than pilots can exert. It is doubtful whether administrative expediency will be the better servant of air-travellers.

The Department of Trade and the Civil Aviation Authority have few ex-airline pilots on their staffs. In the absence of practical experience, an understanding of airline operation could be reached with intellect and open-mindedness—but these are not the attributes most characteristic of politicians, civil servants or wartime RAF officers. Further, the sincerity of official consultation processes in aviation are suspect.

Last year the CAA distinguished itself by prosecuting a pilot for an air traffic violation which he allegedly committed in the air shortly before he took off. He was acquitted. Pilots' hoofs of derision would have been louder had the farce not been at their, and the taxpayers' expense.

A growing problem is the proliferation of warning systems. It seems that each time an administrator thinks of pilots' fallibility (often) or each time a pilot makes a mistake (seldom), a new warning system appears in the cockpit. The barrage of noise and coloured lights to which we are subjected in order to draw attention to a hazard and to prompt remedial action is less likely to elicit the Standard Response than an anguished shriek. The New York Fire Brigade is a worthy body but few would find its passage across their office desk an aid to calm thought. Now the CAA has added a requirement for a Ground Proximity Warning System (five modes for five different ways of hitting the ground; unfortunately there are six). Installation of this system by January 1, 1977 was mandatory. Contact with reality has led to a year's waiver.

Mandatory Occurrence Reporting (which requires a pilot to supply his superior and the CAA a written report of his mistakes) was introduced by the CAA at the same time as the US authorities abandoned it as a demonstrated failure. If instead we had anonymous reporting and a guarantee of adequate administrative rectification the system would be both respected and productive.

The pattern is of enactions which, even if well-intentioned, are ill-judged. Resources are devoted to trivia, apparently in preference to the serious but difficult problems. Air transport is a matter of public interest of which the authorities are the guardians. However passengers are accompanied into the air by pilots, not by the authorities. This might suggest that the public interest is even closer to our hearts than to those of the administrators.

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Every two years a small accounting takes place in the back offices of children's book specialists. Figures are scrutinized, books are balanced and current reputations are rung up on various national registers. It is all to do with the biennial award of two Hans Christian Andersen Medals, given by the International Board on Books for Youth, in the course of which each country involved must nominate for consideration one author and one illustrator, whose total contribution to children's literature might qualify as "lasting".

From the terms of the award it would seem that the salient feature here is the quality of texts as illustrations in themselves, so—in theory—it should not be too difficult for national committees to put forward a couple of names that will make sense to the international jury. But, in practice, the procedure may well start to tangle itself up in extra-literary debates. How far ought one to modify one's decision in the light of knowledge—real or assumed—about foreign response to an author or illustrator's work? How far may foreign judges be influenced by the existence of translations? And can such translations be trusted to represent the author fairly? And how on earth, anyway, will an international jury be able to compare a book of Japanese poems with a turgid tale of social deprivation in Düsseldorf?

Recalling my own experience as a member of the British nominating committee in 1975 I must say that the final effect of arguing about these imponderables is, in fact, to make you return

to first principles and choose nominees for their quality *tout court*. Nevertheless, although I will happily defend our decision then to put forward the names of Edward Ardizzone and William Mayne (and I would not change them now) it is easy enough to see that they must have monopolised the international electoral college. Where are the great splodges of paint so necessary to a truly artistic picture book? And where are the insights into socio-political realities? All those quiet drawing—all that fantasy—these English are so refined!

Well this year it is good to see that the British committee have again argued from the point of view of qualitative achievement, and of the two names that they have singled out the illustrator, Charles Keeping, should meet with more than national acclaim. Indeed, when Mr Keeping's name was previously put forward in 1973 he received high commendation from the main jury, and there can be no doubt that his work is more comprehensible to many Continental critics than that of artists closer to "the English tradition". His black-and-white drawing in books like *The God Beneath the Sea* (Kestrel) is immensely forceful, and his use of colour, while not exactly "great splodges" is expansive and expressionist in a way that meets the European vogue for painting rather than illustration in children's books. In a book like his recent *Wasteground Circus*, published by Oxford University Press, he even gives to colour some of the storytelling power normally given to line. It is an interesting example of

his constant quest for new means of expression.

But if Charles Keeping stands as a nominee justifiable on both critical and "internationalist" grounds, I wonder if the same is true of the author, Alan Garner? Like Charles Keeping, Mr Garner is a forceful executant (and their two talents met perfectly in *Elidor*—still Alan Garner's most successful attempt to blend myth and story) but there is about his writing an individuality as uncompromising as that of his predecessor in the Andersen stakes William Mayne.

This may not be apparent in his earliest books, *The Weirdstone of Brisingamen* and *The Moon of Gomrath* (published like most of his original work, by Collins). These are direct, fast-moving, fairly conventional stories about baneful supernatural powers; but, with hindsight, one can see in them preoccupations which come to dominate his subsequent work. Indeed, one of the fascinating aspects of Alan Garner's development as a writer is the way in which each book seems to be a preparation for the one that is to follow.

The preoccupations now discernible in these early books may crudely be described as landscape and language. *The Weirdstone* is sub-titled "a tale of Alderley", and one of the distinguishing features of it and its companion volume was the immediacy with which they brought an actual location to life; then, despite the inexperience of the beginner craftsman, there was also in the writing of these books an urge towards exactness of expression,

whether of description or of the conversation of Alderley farmers, wizards and shape-shifters.

As Alan Garner's work has progressed these characteristics can be seen more clearly as part of a profound concern for history.

It is not history in the schoolroom sense (although the Roman-British and Civil War scenes in *Red Shift* have more to contribute to such a thing than ever textbook did); and it is not "working-class" history in the tendentious modern interpretation of that term. It is history coming up through the bones of the land, or flowing through the rhythms of a sentence—casting the people of a locality, for good or ill, in the mould of their own landscape.

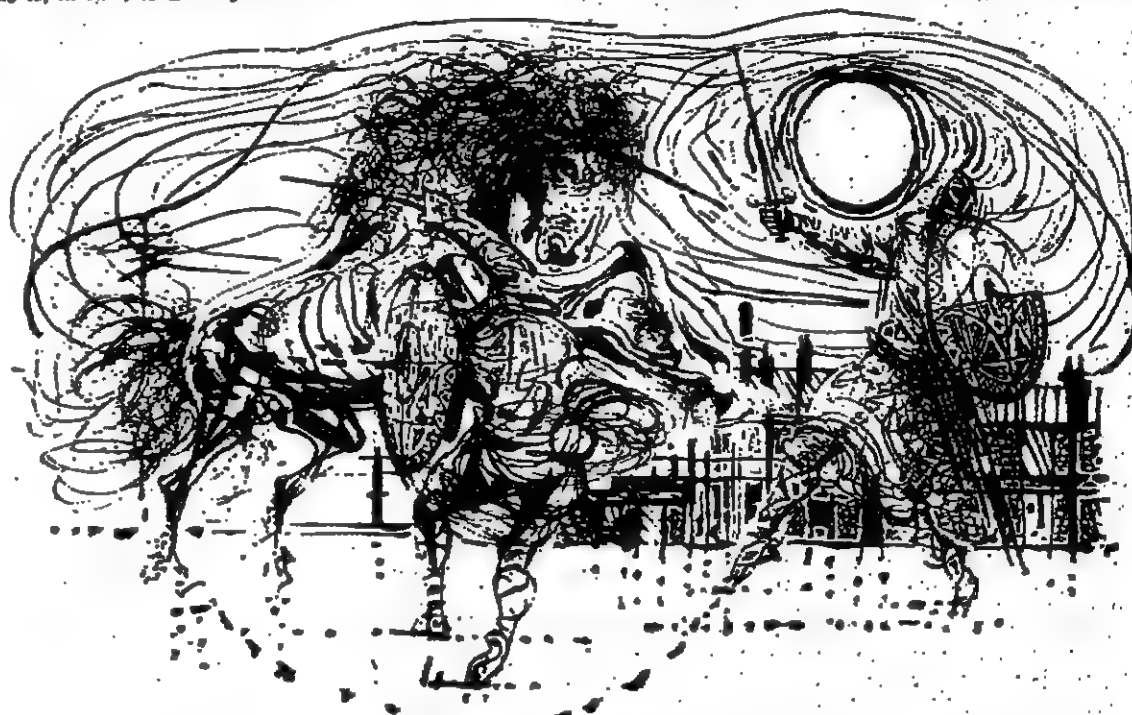
The Owl Service and *Red Shift*, despite moments of outstanding perception, were flawed in their construction—but, perhaps because of his work on two remarkable anthologies for Hamish Hamilton: *The Book of Goats* and *The Quizer*, Alan Garner has come to a richer sense of the part played by folklore in the texture of narratives. Since the publication of *The Quizer* in 1975 his art has reached new heights in the two short tales: *The Stone Book* and *Tom Fobble's Day*.

Like the best work of William Mayne these two books seem to lie beyond any making. They were just there, in some stratum of the Cheshire countryside, and Alan Garner, by a fortunate magic, has brought them to the light of day. They combine direct, accessible accounts of child experience (Mary climbing ladders up St Philip's steeple in *The Stone Book*) with closely realized detail of one place at one time—so that when, at the end of *Tom Fobble's Day* he writes of young William sledging down a hill: "The line did hold. Through band and eye, block force and loom to the hill and all that he owned." Alan Garner encapsulates both the fact of a tale and the warrant for its telling. To the citizens of Cheshire, and, indeed, of the British Isles, it will have a potency all its own. One wonders what the mosaic international jurors will make of it all.

Brian Atkinson

● The British FCA Committee has also named Errol Le Cain's *Thorn Rose* (Faber), and William Mayne's *A Year and a Day* (Hamish Hamilton) as works of especial merit published during the last two years, and has named Anthea Bell an outstanding translator for her work on Christina Rossetti's *The Cuckoo King* (Abelard Schuman).

● Left: Charles Keeping illustrates Alan Garner. A drawing from *Elidor* (Collins).



The bright lights taste comes to Telford.

When the Cinzano people decided to bottle their famous vermouth themselves in Britain, they went determinedly about the business of finding the best possible location for their new project. It had to fulfil several important requirements: for instance, it had to provide a pleasant home environment for the valued Cinzano work-force; it had to be in the right situation for a distribution centre; and it had to offer a welcome in the form of assistance and co-operation towards industrial investment—such as Cinzano was proposing.

After a thorough search, they chose Telford—where their U.K. bottling and distribution complex was

officially opened on 1st July. So now all Britain's Cinzano is being bottled at Telford.

Dr. Eduardo Ferrero, Managing Director of Cinzano (U.K.) says: "Our decisions on choosing a site were based on many factors, such as location, availability of labour, and price. On balance, Telford offered us the best deal we saw. Telford's assistance—not only from the straight industrial aspects—has been considerable, and I would most certainly recommend anyone considering a business move to look closely at what Telford has to offer."

The trend towards Telford is summed up in Dr. Ferrero's comments. So if you're thinking of moving, expanding, or just opening—think Telford. It offers a great deal—and a great future. Post the coupon, or contact

Bob Tilmouth, Commercial Director

Telford Development Corporation

Priorslee Hall, Telford, Salop TF1 2NT
Phone: Telford (0952) 613151 Telex: 55359



Name _____
Position _____
Company _____
Address _____

You'll be a site better off in Telford.

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ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Begin, Aug. 22. Dealings End, Sept. 2. § Contango Day, Sept. 5. Settlement Day, Sept. 13.
 § Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days.

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Advertising: is the improvement all a display? page 21

THE TIMES

BUSINESS NEWS



Leyland offers Longbridge 32pc pay rises but insists on productivity first

By Clifford Webb

Leyland Cars management today rejected demands by 1,000 workers at their Longbridge car plant for a wage increase of 47 per cent or £31 a week.

But they will make counter proposals which could amount to an extra £20 or 32 per cent, or the next two years. Company executives will insist, however, that the 10 per cent increase in productivity must be achieved before any further pay rises are considered. And offer will still be subject to management approval through TUC.

It is understood that Leyland will offer a basic increase of 8 per cent within the framework of the 10 per cent limit. On the present average of £52, this would mean £55.76.

There would be another £6 to a week (depending on job) to bring Longbridge into line with higher paid plants in the group.

But they are offering incentive payments in return for productivity. A figure of 10 per cent has been suggested as the target for productivity.

At the parity and incentive have already been discussed in detail and agreed in principle by the union-management working party which has been concerned with industrial relations and pay reforms since 1975.

The Confederation of Shipbuilding and Engineering Unions has described the proposals developed within the working party as "representing the best approach to the problems of Leyland Cars".

Since the confederation represents all the manual unions within Leyland, it is difficult to see how the TUC can do other than recommend their approval to the Government.

The big problem now facing Mr Derek Whitaker, Leyland Cars managing director, and Mr Geoffrey Whalen, its industrial relations chief, is how to ensure that these counter-proposals receive a fair hearing on the shop floor.

Formal negotiations will have to be conducted through the joint shop stewards' committee at Longbridge, which is headed by Mr Derek Robinson, the AUEW convenor and a prominent member of the Communist Party.

Mr Robinson has already stated publicly that for cooperation with productivity improvements which will bring Longbridge up to the level of the best continental companies, his members' wages must be kept at the end of the bargain.

The probable solution—one that Mr Whitaker has adopted before—is an explanatory leaflet posted to all employees. Meanwhile there are guarded hopes that the Longbridge strike will be settled today. A new company offer will be put to a mass meeting of the 12,000 toolmakers involved in the seven-week stoppage.

Lucas is offering a £3 a week increase in bonus payments (double its last offer), a single payment of £100 a head for the money lost in the bonus dispute before the strike began, and the setting up of a working party to produce a new bonus scheme within six months.

The toolmakers have demanded £5 a week and when the 60 shop stewards considered the latest offer yesterday, they refused to indicate whether they would recommend a return to work.

Resulting shortage of electrical components has stopped production of three Leyland car ranges, and made about 3,500 car workers idle in addition to the 9,500 laid off at Lucas.

Output of Jaguar cars is threatened by a wages strike and a shortage of steering parts. Some 1,200 men are on strike for another £20 a week at Jaguar's Radford, Coventry, engine plant. A further 600 have been laid off, and engine production is at a standstill.

At the Browns Lane assembly plant about 1,000 are laid off because of a strike at a steering parts manufacturer. The 3,000 labour force at Browns Lane have refused to join their Radford colleagues on strike and have voted heavily to accept the company's phase two offer of 5 per cent backdated to April when the previous agreement expired.

Today employees at both plants will receive the full backdated increase in their pay packet whether they like the offer or not.

£36m Ocean order at Scott Lithgow

By Peter Hill

Britain's shipbuilding industry received a £36m boost yesterday against the background of a continued world recession in the volume of shipping orders.

The Liverpool-based Ocean Transport & Trading Group has ordered three fast cargo liners from the Lower Clyde group of Scott Lithgow, which now forms part of British Shipbuilders, the new state organization.

In the last 10 years Ocean has built its new ships almost exclusively in overseas yards, and the placing of the British contract comes after considerable behind-the-scenes pressure on the British shipping industry to channel as many new orders as possible to domestic yards.

These efforts have been greatly enhanced by the availability of government subsidy finance in the form of the Shipbuilding Intervention Fund.

The fund, approved officially by the European Commission at the beginning of this month, was established to enable United Kingdom yards to close the price gap between their prices and those of overseas yards through subsidies.

Earlier this year, Sir Lindsay Alexander, Ocean's chairman, gave a clear indication that orders would be placed in the United Kingdom in the course of this year.

In the past 10 years—apart from tugs and other small vessels—Ocean has placed orders for only three ships of any significant size in Britain, and Scott Lithgow's tender was the lowest received from a number of yards both in the United Kingdom and overseas.



Sir Lindsay Alexander, company pleased with British orders.

price. Ocean's contract will probably involve about £4.3m from the fund.

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and Scott Lithgow's tender was the lowest received from a number of yards both in the United Kingdom and overseas. The Ocean chairman said yesterday that the company was pleased to be able to order the ships in Britain and play its part in supporting the shipbuilding industry.

Mr C. D. Lennox Conyngham, an Ocean director, said the Lower Clyde yard had quoted the best price possible for the three ships, taking into account delivery date, contract price, financing terms, ease of building supervision and the view taken on future currency fluctuations.

Work on the ships will start immediately, and they are due for delivery in the second half of 1979 and the first three months of 1980.

The new ships, each of 20,000 tons deadweight, will be multi-purpose cargo liners capable of carrying both containers and bulk cargoes, and will probably be operated in the group's West African trades by Elder Dempster Lines.

Welcoming the orders, Mr A. Ross Belch, managing director of Scott Lithgow, said the work was vitally important for the Lower Clyde area, and would provide the equivalent of one year's employment at the group's Greenock yards.

He referred to the "very difficult" times being experienced by the shipbuilding

industry throughout the world. The parlous state of the industry was underlined in the latest quarterly survey published by Lloyd's Register Shipping last night. This showed that world order books had continued to decline, and had dropped to the lowest point since September, 1968.

During the last quarter—the end of June—the world order book fell by nearly 5.6 million tons gross to a total of slightly less than 46 million tons gross.

More ominously, the survey noted that overall order intake in the first half of the year—6.7 million tons—was less than 50 per cent of the total output in that period, which amounted to 14.1 million tons.

Lloyd's also stated that only 18 per cent of the total tonnage on order throughout the world was for delivery after 1978.

It is against this background that the principal world shipbuilding industries are engaged in a bitter struggle to capture new orders to preserve jobs by taking orders at considerable losses but cushioned by government subsidies.

Over 300 workers at the Moderns plant lost their jobs after the Sona takeover, which involved Bond Worth in a heavy loss. Former Bond Worth executive Mr David Bove, a director of Sona, said in January that an application for industry aid would be made in order to reopen the factory.

Yesterday, a spokesman for the Department of Industry explained that an application made by Sona for a Whitehall assistance had been made in March but, as additional information required by the Department had not been received, the application had now been regarded as withdrawn.

Further requests for more information were sent by the Department during May and June and, in the light of a letter sent by the company dated July 11, the Department gave the company a deadline of August 1 for the details. Attempts were made by telephone and in person to contact the company.

The Government received on January 25, 1977, a declaration from Sona that it intended to reorganise, re-equip and re-establish manufacturing in the famous blanket and quilt making factory.

Yesterday, the sister Department of Trade said that Sona had now filed accounts—they were lodged last week—after reminders and an annual return. On March 29, 1977, to submit outstanding annual returns. Last month, the Department gave a warning to Sona that, unless accounts were filed by August 19, the Department's solicitor would be asked to consider a criminal prosecution of the company and its directors.

Some of the documents just received have been returned "for technical reasons", but the company is not now regarded as in default.

Moderns was sold in November, 1976, by Bond Worth, requiring a special dividend against losses of £2.4m. In March this year, Bond Worth revealed a guarantee given in respect of Moderns' bank overdraft had not yet been released, as required by its sales agreement with Sona Consultants and Mr S. N. Shah.

The extent of the guarantee was not given, but guarantees given by Bond Worth to non-group companies total around £2.4m. In March, a scheme of £2.4m for Bond Worth was announced and was given by the City's new Equity Bank. However, Bond Worth was recently placed in the hands of a receiver.

The new owners of Moderns faced a bit-in by the workers earlier this year. Questions were asked in the Commons about Sona, a private company registered in May 1975 as consultants and advisers to the textile industry and with only £2.2 million subscribed shares.

Only a few weeks after buying the 100-year-old enterprise Sona pronounced Moderns as no longer profitable and said it would close by March 1977.

Mr David Bove, who was appointed managing director of Moderns by Sona, brought in its former managing director under Bond Worth's ownership, Mr Len Robinson, and insisted that Sona had plans for re-structuring and reopening the factory.

In talks with the Government, Sona explained its ideas for re-equipment with public funds to make blankets and duvets for export to customers and potential home market buyers.

It is understood that the Department of Industry remains ready to look at a new application. Part of its misgivings—arising from the failure to provide outstanding information required under the Industry Act—were due to the lapse of time since Sona's aid proposal was submitted, rendering the cost of costs somewhat out-of-date.

Political interference does not appear to be as menacing as some had feared. Also in America, the threat of disinvestment seems to be receding.

Altogether, barring unforeseen circumstances the outlook for the Oil industry and, therefore, of its tried and leading shares may be regarded as encouraging.

Our holding in Foreign Equity Stocks, mainly in America, has been maintained and further use has been made of the Dollar Loan facility.

Net asset value per share at 30th June 1977: 80p (1976: 65p)

No state aid to cover the blanket makers

An application by Sona Consultants, the small London company to which the financially distressed Bond Worth carpet group sold the Moderns plant, has failed to obtain state assistance for re-opening the factory at Mytholmroyd, West Yorkshire.

Over 300 workers at the Moderns plant lost their jobs after the Sona takeover, which involved Bond Worth in a heavy loss. Former Bond Worth executive Mr David Bove, a director of Sona, said in January that an application for industry aid would be made in order to reopen the factory.

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Oil and associated investment trust Ltd.

Extracts from the Statement of the Chairman, Major A. S. W. Joseph.

Oil shares have greatly out-performed the Market both here and abroad, and should continue to do so in view of their importance to the world's economy and their appeal as a hedge against inflation.

North Sea Oil and Gas developments continue to be particularly encouraging, and in many cases the results seem to be exceeding forecasts: the Trust's investments in a substantial exposure in the North Sea which is satisfactory and likely to prove of real benefit to the Trust.

Political interference does not appear to be as menacing as some had feared. Also in America, the threat of disinvestment seems to be receding.

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Birmingham tends Giro rent system

By Financial Staff

A growing number of attacks on collectors and the need for more recent payment points prompted Birmingham City Council to use the Giro as a method of rent for all of its 150,000 tenants.

The city joins more than 140 authorities throughout the country using the Giro system for rent collection. More than a million tenants are now covered by this method.

Birmingham started by introducing the scheme in South City a year ago and now the city is to be expanded to the entire city over the next eight months.

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DoT investigation into United Industrial

By Ronald Puleo

Department of Trade inspectors have been appointed to investigate United Industrial after a request for an inquiry from shareholders under sections 164 and 172 of the 1948 Companies Act.

The investigation will cover the affairs of United Industrial leading to the suspension of its stock market quotation last December "pending clarification of its financial position" and the appointment of a receiver.

Ownership of the company, in particular the stake clocked in the name of Midland Bank Overseas Nominees, will also be looked into.

United Industrial, a Leeds-based distributor of toiletries, household goods and toys with retail outlets in the Midlands and the south of France, had an unhappy history since 1973.

Pre-tax profits have slumped from £166,379 in 1973 to £33,382 in 1975, the last full year for which figures are available, and considerable changes in the make-up of the board and direction of the company.

In 1974, the Harrison family sold its 11 per cent stake in the company to Mr Dennis Hillman-Eady, who subsequently replaced Mr Jack Harrison as chairman. After this the company's accounts were heavily qualified by its auditors, who subsequently resigned.

Since then Mr Hillman-Eady has built up his interest to 29.5 per cent, just short of the level that would have required him to make a full bid.

Subsequent rationalization and reorientation of the company including withdrawal from the fancy goods field, stock adjustments and a move to expand in France, took longer and cost more than expected. But as recently as March, 1976, Mr Hillman-Eady was able to take a sanguine view of the company's prospects.

Even at that time, however, it was becoming apparent that the trading position was suffering from a cash shortage in the company which made it difficult for the retail outlets to be kept fully stocked, and six months later Mr Hillman-Eady was replaced as chairman by a chartered accountant Mr Alfred Davis.

The inspectors are Mr Gerald James, QC and accountant Mr Peter Dobson.

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Decline of West German trade puts July current account in deficit

From Peter Norman

Bonn, Aug 23

West Germany's visible trade surplus slumped in July, helping to push the country's current account balance of payments into the red, according to figures issued today by the Federal Statistics Office in Wiesbaden.

In July, West Germany's visible trade surplus was DM21,190m (about £5,045m) against imports worth DM19,425m, resulting in a visible trade surplus of DM1,765m. This compared with June's visible trade surplus of about DM2,900m and a surplus of DM2,600m in July, 1976. The

lower trade surplus last month forced the current account into deficit.

Provisional federal bank figures released by the Statistics Office today put the July deficit at DM1,300m compared with a current account surplus of DM300m in June and a deficit of DM650m in July last year.

July and August are traditionally months of balance of payments weakness in Germany. Holidays cut industrial production and the free-spending habits of German tourists abroad add to the country's inherent deficit on invisible transactions and transfer payments.

money into the banking system by relaxing the minimum reserve requirements, which determine how much cash commercial banks must tie up in non-interest-bearing assets at the Federal Bank.

In July, Dr Oskar Emminger, the Federal Bank president, hinted that a minimum reserve reduction might be on the cards after the summer break. Such action would help to ease the banking system through the month of September, when heavy tax payments are due to the state.

Another suggestion was that the council, which will meet under the chairmanship of Dr Emminger, might cut bank rate from the 3.5 per cent level at which it has been pegged since September, 1975.

Although bankers tend to disagree about the practical value of a bank rate reduction, it is felt that such a move might give German business at least a psychological boost.

The Post Office has sold to West Germany its expertise on the Viewdata communications system, which links the telephone with a television set.

Announcing what was described as a substantial contract, signed in Bonn, Mr Kenneth Cadbury, managing director Post Office Telecommunications, said yesterday that discussions were also taking place with other countries.

With this contract the British Post Office is providing a significant opportunity for British firms to develop their international economic relations.

Pay dispute threatens Batchelors with loss of beans harvest

By Ronald Kershaw
Northern Industrial
Correspondent

Batchelors Foods, of Sheffield, which has already lost sales worth up to £5m on its surprise peas products because of a seven-week-old pay dispute which has prevented it from taking the pea harvest, is in danger of losing a further £500,000 on the 5,500-ton beans crop.

About 1,200 workers at plants at Sheffield and Workson are involved in the dispute.

The dispute arose when pay increases of between £1.24 and £3.52 were claimed. Maximum increases possible have been paid by the company under phases one and two of the Government's pay policy and to make the payments now

demand, it claims would be against the spirit of the TUC Government pay guidelines.

A self-financing productivity scheme has been offered which should give the workers £2 a week across-the-board increase in return for a certain amount of de-maning. This would involve no loss of jobs.

Further, any savings made in the operation of the plant would be divided 50-50 with the workers.

Transport and General Workers Union, which has made the strike official, has replied with a demand that the dispute go to the Advisory Conciliation and Arbitration Service. The company's answer to this is that demands outside the TUC Government guidelines cannot be the subject of arbitration.

France may present next year's budget in deficit

Paris, Aug. 23.—While the French Government opposes a general reflation of the economy in the near future, it has not ruled out the possibility of presenting the 1978 budget in deficit, according to informed sources.

The decision was taken at a restricted cabinet meeting yesterday preparing final details of the budget to be presented at, and announced soon after a full cabinet meeting on September 7.

Another restricted ministerial meeting will be held next week to settle the receipts side of the budget. Expenditure has already been fixed at 396,000m francs (about £47,600m)—up 11.9 per cent from 1977.

Presentations of a deficit would mark a new development, because French budgets have until now been traditionally presented in balance, with supplementary deficit budgets being introduced later, if necessary.

The Government has repeatedly said this year that the 1978 budget would be both

presented and executed in balance.

The sources said possible stimulatory measures which might be taken in Germany, and to a lesser extent in Britain, would be studied in working out the budget.

The possible deficit, but recent press reports have speculated that it could be between 10,000m and 20,000m francs.

The growth target adopted for next year seems likely to be about 4 per cent, but the exact figure will depend on any action taken by certain foreign governments, particularly West Germany.

M. Robert Boutin, the deputy finance minister, said recently that 1978 growth could be as high as 4.5 per cent after an estimated 3.5 per cent this year, while the OECD is forecasting a 3 per cent annual growth rate in the first half of 1978.

Despite pressure from employers and unions to stimulate the economy, M. Raymond Barre, the Prime Minister, has repeatedly said he is opposed to a general reflation.—Reuter.

Importers urge freer trade

Calling for freer trade to increase world prosperity, Mr. E. Brown, director of the British Importers Confederation, said yesterday that it was imperative to ward off EEC governments of the dangers of import controls.

Mr. Brown was speaking to British importers in London at the introduction of the European Overseas Import Fair, to be held in Berlin from September 21 to 25.

Wall St link-up with Pacific SE

The New York and Pacific stock exchanges reportedly have agreed to the electronic linking of their trading floors. Yesterday's Los Angeles Times said the chairman of the "Big Board" and the PSE were expected to ask the Securities and Exchange Commission to approve the proposal.

"It definitely is not a merger," Mr. Edward W. Wedbush, chairman of the PSE's board of governors, is quoted as saying.

207 Scottish jobs go in Glynwed's closure

Glynwed Bathroom and Kitchen Products announced yesterday that it is to close the Cockburn works of Vogue Bathrooms in Falkirk, with the loss of 207 jobs.

The company said the Scottish plant, which makes cast-iron baths, had incurred major financial losses in the past two years and Vogue Bathrooms would in future concentrate production at its Bilston factory in the west Midlands where there were sufficient manufacturing facilities to match foreseeable market demand.

Consultations are to take place with trade unions about the Falkirk redundancies. Glynwed stressed that the move to the Midlands would help to maintain continuity of employment for the Bilston workforce.

A spokesman said the Government's continuing cutback in expenditure had severely hit the building industry, to which the Cockburn works' products were closely allied.

£3.3m alumina plant expansion

British Aluminium is to spend £3.3m on a 10 per cent expansion of the capacity of its alumina refinery at Fife, Scotland. It follows investment of about £5m in recent years by British Aluminium to expand its alumina refinery at Fife.

The company said yesterday the latest investment would increase job security at the Fife plant. This produces chemicals for a wide variety of products ranging from refractories to catalysts and flame retardants.

Exports now account for 25 per cent of total sales.

North Sea output slows in July

Oil production in the North Sea dropped by nearly 59,000 barrels a day to 767,947 barrels during July, the Department of Energy announced yesterday.

Production was cut back on the large Forties and Brent fields so that further construction work could be undertaken during the good weather. Output is expected to rise again this month and in September.

Co-op grocery sales

The Co-op's share of grocery sales, as indicated by AGB's research for July, which was published yesterday, was incorrect. The figure should have read 17.4 per cent.

Lay-offs at Cammell deferred after peace move by boilermakers

By Peter Hill
Industrial Correspondent

Boilermakers leaders yesterday intervened to end the strike by 60 staggers at the Cammell Laird Shipyard on Merseyside, which has lasted five weeks and threatened the jobs of more than 6,000 other workers at the yard.

The 60 members of the Boilermakers Society have been on strike and have picketed vessels under construction in protest at the company's dismissal of four workers last month for being absent from work without permission. The strikers—members of the staging department who were picketing the vessels and preventing other workers from carrying out their jobs. Last night the company said it had agreed to withhold the injunctions.

The dispute was resolved. But as a result of an initiative by the executive of the Boilermakers Society, the company said that it would defer the lay-offs.

In a statement, the company added that it expected that the proposals by the executive would be relayed to an early meeting of members of the staging department and it hoped this would result in a return to normal working.

Cammell—which has given talks here today for a new test-bed for the future of shipbuilding on Merseyside in jeopardy—took out temporary injunctions against the strikers to prevent them picketing the vessels and preventing other workers from carrying out their jobs.

Employees were told that they faced the prospect of being laid off from last night unless the dispute was resolved. But as a result of an initiative by the executive of the Boilermakers Society, the company said that it would defer the lay-offs.

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Seoul fights for US textile quota

Seoul, Aug. 23.—America opened its second round of negotiations with South Korea.

The first round of negotiations in Washington ended in a deadlock over how much South Korea would be allowed to increase its textile exports to the United States during the next five years.

Mr. Michael Smith, a White House trade negotiator, led a six-member negotiating team, accompanied by a group of 11 advisers representing the textile industry and unions which demand tight import restrictions.

The current agreement, which expires at the end of September, allows an overall annual quota growth rate of 6.25 per cent, but South Korea sources said that the United States wanted to reduce it to 4 per cent, with still more severe growth for sensitive items such as woolen clothing, synthetic fibre sweaters and shirts, which are more in demand.—AP-Dow Jones.

but finance ministry officials said yesterday that the current account for calendar 1977 would probably show a surplus larger than the \$7,000m forecast by the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development.

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Separate indexation for low paid is needed

From Mr. Chris Ford

Sir, The increasing importance of the Retail Price Index in the new era of "indexation" was highlighted in your columns by Mr. J. L. Nicholson who has called for more resources to be devoted to perfecting the method of its construction (August 13, 1977).

Mr. Nicholson's case is a strong one and should be taken seriously.

Indexation marks a change in the role of the RPI from that of an economic indicator, to one of the most important instruments of social and economic policy at the Government's disposal. The living standards of pensioners and the recipients of other forms of benefit depend on changes in the index for compensation against increases in their living costs.

Movements in the RPI also determine the standard of living of wage and salary earners, either by using it to adjust their wages, or because the amount of income tax they pay is dependent on the increase in prices measured.

Although the RPI is never intended as a measure of changes in the "cost of living" that is what it has become. This changing role demands the commitment of increased resources to ensure that the index fulfils its new responsibilities adequately.

An improvement in the accuracy of the RPI itself will however only go part of the way. The use of a single summary measure of price changes conceals the fact that "the cost of living" changes at different rates for different social and economic groups. It has been estimated that the expenditure pattern on which the RPI is based corresponds to that of households between two thirds and three quarters of the way up the income scale.

Households on average or low incomes devote a larger proportion of their expenditure to necessities and, since these items have risen fastest in price in recent years, it follows that the cost of living of these households has also increased faster than the RPI suggests.

The Low Pay Unit has calculated

for instance that in the three years to March 1977 prices increased by five percentage points more for low than for high income households (taking the top and bottom 10 per cent as representative of "low" and "high" incomes).

The implications of this are obvious: if wages, benefits or taxes are adjusted by the single official price index, low income groups will be under-compensated for the effects of inflation and attempts to protect the living standards of this group will be frustrated. The Government already publishes separate price indices for pensioners which have in recent years registered price rises considerably above those of the general index, but which are not used to adjust pensions themselves and cannot be taken as fully representative of the experience of the poor in general.

The Cost of Living Advisory Committee, who recommended the construction of the pensioner index ten years ago, also proposed that further consideration be given to the need for another index for large, low income households. No such official investigation has since taken place. Yet the Government has declared itself opposed to the principle of a special index for the low paid.

In this the United Kingdom is out of step with countries where indexation has a longer history. Denmark, Italy, the Netherlands and the United States each have a separate index against which wages are adjusted. Germany and France have a whole battery of indices to measure the impact of inflation on different social groups.

Given the problems of restraining the present RPI official opposition to a separate index for the low paid is understandable. But until it is equipped with such an index, the Government cannot be sure of fulfilling adequately its commitment to protect the living standards of this group.

Yours faithfully,
CHRIS FORD,
Research Officer,
9 Poland Street,
London W1V 5DG.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

£278m Paris transport subsidy

From the Chairman of London Transport

Sir, While we in London Transport are delighted to see that our friends in Paris produced a trading surplus in 1976, we are a little surprised that Business Days in Europe (August 22) failed to mention that RATP (the Paris equivalent of London Transport) received a total subsidy from public funds of 2,408m francs (£278m in sterling equivalent) as compared with London Transport's £114m to run a significantly larger public transport operation.

Put another way, revenue subsidies in Paris for the year 1976 amounted to 55 per cent of expenditure against 30 per cent for London Transport in the same year. Indeed, for 1977 revenue subsidies for London Transport will probably account for only 23 per cent of expenditure.

Last year RATP was able to spend five times as much on investment as London Transport. If we had access to funds of this order, modernisation and upgrading of Underground stations, and indeed all our facilities, would be at least as rapid as in Paris.

Yours faithfully,
KENNETH ROBINSON,
55 Broadway,
Westminster,
London, SW1E 0BD,
August 23.

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August 23.

Laker honour?

From Jean P. Berrange

Sir, May I suggest that Mr. Fred Laker be included in the next Honours List for his services to the British people in bringing down prices by forcing British Airways and other airlines in the IATA "cartel" to halve the cost of transatlantic air fares. His example of British enterprise and perseverance in the face of opposition by the big bastions of this establishment all the more commendable.

Yours faithfully,
JEAN P. BERRANGE,
24 Wentworth Mansions,
Keston Grove,
London W3 2RL,
August 16.

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Appointments Vacant

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3. Training Specialist: Minimum five years' experience in technical training accreditation. Experience in identification of training needs, programming, instruction methodology, test and program evaluation essential.
4. Employee Development and Upgrading Specialist: Minimum five years' experience in identification of training needs, career path planning development management and supervision. Technical training background preferred.
5. Language Training Specialist: M.A. plus Toefl/Teel accreditation. Seven years' experience in teaching English as second language plus two years of language training program management.

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Mr. A. R. Ahmadi,
Director of Human Resources,
National Iranian Copper Industries Co.,
5 Elizabeth II Blvd.,
Tehran 14,
IRAN

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Normal secretarial duties plus dealing with public enquiries, packing parcels, handing out questionnaires, etc. Fast and accurate typing essential.

Please apply in writing with full curriculum vitae (stating clearly for which job you are applying, level of salary required and earliest starting date) to:—

Miss Lynne Burton, Marketing Officer,
Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, London, W.C.2.
Closing date: 6 September.

chief executive (insurance)

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The seasoned and capable executive selected for this position will have prime responsibility for providing leadership, motivation and overall direction to the business of the company and for overseeing the management of its day-to-day affairs. Key aspects of this unique and challenging opportunity will involve the development of long range objectives, policies and plans, and the maintaining of important external corporate relationships.

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Vancouver, B.C.
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For young persons to assist with the general management of the Centre and also with the organisation and execution of the Centre's day-to-day affairs. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day-to-day management of the Centre and will have good communication skills and a proven ability to work under pressure. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day-to-day management of the Centre and will have good communication skills and a proven ability to work under pressure.

Beckwell Staff Search,
84-86 Baker Street, London W1M 1DL.
Telephone: 01-487 5761

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An intelligent and reliable person with an excellent knowledge of the Fulham area is urgently required to organize a team of one of London's busiest medical practices. The successful candidate will be responsible for the management of the practice and will have good communication skills and a proven ability to work under pressure.

For further information call 361 2024

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require Receptionist/Telephone for these busy medical practices. The person appointed should be well spoken, of pleasing appearance and used to dealing with the general public. Preferred age range 25-35, starting salary £20 p.w. plus £1.50 and free hair care.

Please telephone Mrs. Linda Howard Spink on 655 0813 for interview.

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Telephone 589 8765
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408 2121
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Friendly, hard-working person with a proven ability to negotiate with clients. Knowledgeable about the insurance industry. Able to handle a wide range of clients. No experience necessary. Salary £10,000 p.a. plus benefits. Phone Mrs. M. M. Alday & Co., 684 6391.

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are looking for a Receptionist/Secretary. The person appointed should be well spoken, of pleasing appearance and used to dealing with the general public. Preferred age range 25-35, starting salary £20 p.w. plus £1.50 and free hair care.

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Graduate Secretary. The person appointed should be well spoken, of pleasing appearance and used to dealing with the general public. Preferred age range 25-35, starting salary £20 p.w. plus £1.50 and free hair care.

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Please telephone Mrs. Linda Howard Spink on 655 0813 for interview.

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Please telephone Mrs. Linda Howard Spink on 655 0813 for interview.

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Specialist. The person appointed should be well spoken, of pleasing appearance and used to dealing with the general public. Preferred age range 25-35, starting salary £20 p.w. plus £1.50 and free hair care.

Please telephone Mrs. Linda Howard Spink on 655 0813 for interview.

INTERNATIONAL A.S.

Graduate Secretary. The person appointed should be well spoken, of pleasing appearance and used to dealing with the general public. Preferred age range 25-35, starting salary £20 p.w. plus £1.50 and free hair care.

Please telephone Mrs. Linda Howard Spink on 655 0813 for interview.

BY THE FINANCIAL EDITOR

Clouds overhanging Ocean Transport

The 70 per cent growth in half time profits of £26.1m at Ocean Transport and Trading was an impressive follow-up to last year's 32 per cent improvement, but it has been seen in the context of a sector that is reattained by a mass of uncertainty.

The worldwide over-capacity in tankers has been feeding through gradually to bulk carriers and is now beginning to have an impact on cargo liners. In addition competition from the Russians and others on most every route has raised serious questions about the future of the shipping market as a whole.

Deans' recent performance is a tribute to the way it has managed to stay on top of the game and the backbone of its main-gam profits growth, the West African route, is looking as buoyant as ever after a year's earlier in the year. It has added too much exposure at the bulk and tanker ends of the market and preserved substantial liquidity.

It has also relied heavily on its 49 per cent stake in Overseas Containers (L). This is to be cut to 33 per cent at the end of the month as a result of the nationalization of the South African and Zealand trades, a venture which is only presenting enormous problems apart from the size of the investment.

In addition, there is continuing uncertainty about the timing of the increased activity on the Trans-Siberian Railway which threatens to undercut OCL's Far East trade.

Associated companies provided £17.5m of latest half year profits and most of this is from OCL so the potential effect of these changes in the second half is considerable.

Deans could make around £50m for the year and its past performance and financial strength should ensure that its share price is up to 153p yesterday's return is currently weak sector. But the shipping recession has too far to run to them any immediate attractions.

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that grim outlook for the asbestos
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same takes on a more urgent appear-

Monday's £34m bid for 52 per cent of
United States chemicals group, Philip A.
of New Jersey, will cut T & N's
business to less than half of the
turnover and earnings, and shift the
of earnings overseas for the first

employment of glass and nylon fibre
in last month's £18m acquisition
vinyl sheeting and costed fabrics
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to international chemical producer.

stock market seems pleased enough
the transformation. But it should not
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and for asbestos as a building
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price, near its "high" for the year
up 1p yesterday.



Mr. Harry Oppenheimer, chairman of De Beers Consolidated.

De Beers

Growing importance to Anglo

The De Beers money-making machine has turned in an extraordinary first-half performance with attributable profits of £285.3m (about £158m) coming close to the profit for the whole of last year of £308.5m.

The results have far surpassed stock market expectations, which in the main had been anticipating earnings per share of 60 to 65 cents against an actual 79.3 cents.

Vague market rumours of another impending diamond price increase are now likely to turn to a clamour with the company's comment that the 15 per cent increase in March "has been absorbed and the market remains firm".

Diamond profits rose by 76 per cent to £380.1m in the first half compared with a 38 per cent increase in the level of sales by the central selling organization which demonstrates the benefits that accrue to the company when the diamond stockpile is drawn down with prices going up. So after these results, market estimates of total earnings per share this year of 110 to 120 cents are looking somewhat pedestrian, particularly if another price increase is brought about.

The question now is how De Beers will utilize its ever growing cash mountain. Last year cash had risen from £187.4m to £470.3m while loans at the year end were little changed.

Admittedly, considerable cash resources have to be held to finance the diamond stockpile—which last year fell by £76.9m to £227.5m—in the event of a downturn, since the company's ability to buy in other producers' stones and hold them through a recession is integral to the maintenance of the Central Selling Organization's marketing monopoly.

Even so, that still leaves a lot of leeway, and the merger of Rand Selection and Anglo American Corporation earlier this year, which resulted in De Beers' ending up with a one-third equity holding in Anglo, may provide an outlet. De Beers has frequently been involved in Anglo group projects outside the diamond industry, but its involvement may now become greater.

Admittedly, Anglo now has an enlarged base, but it could be significant that De Beers took such a large slice (11 per cent) of the recently-listed East Rand Gold and Uranium Company (Ergo).

With Charter Consolidated having faded from its original role in the Anglo empire and now seemingly intent on building up its industrial side, De Beers could now emerge increasingly become the link between the South African interests and the outside world.

The expansion of De Beers in the diamond industry has its limitations (particularly with negotiations with the Botswana Government over Jwaneng bogged down) and a strong move into other fields within the Anglo empire has its advantages. Although De Beers is bought as a diamond stock rather than anything else, its current ratings can well support further moves in other fields.

Even at now unrealistic estimate of earnings per share of 120 cents, the shares at 263p are selling at a mere 3½ times earnings. After a 17½ cents interim dividend, a total of 45 cents seems reasonable to give a prospective yield of 10 per cent cum premium.

Advertising at any rate that part of it which is most visible to the layman, appears to have made an unexpectedly strong recovery during the first half of 1977.

While the figures for the second quarter have not yet been completely analysed, it is clear that the real gain in advertising to consumers which was recorded in 1976 has been more than maintained, and the indications are of more growth in the next six months.

If the trends continue, real advertising in this section of the record levels of 1973 by the end of the year.

The improvement is, however, being regarded with caution by the advertising industry. It is aware that the projected gains for the second half of the year could be wiped out by a number of factors, ranging from market changes and industrial disputes to general economic conditions.

Economists in the industry also stress that the results available so far relate only to one section of advertising. The business is split broadly into three categories: display advertising, which includes private sector manufacturers advertising to consumers, represents nearly 70 per cent; then there are trade and technical advertising, which represents 8 to 9 per cent, and classified advertising, which accounts for more than 20 per cent.

Each of these sectors, and the sub groups within them, respond at different rates to varying stimulants.

During 1976 the improvement in display advertising and, within that, manufacturers' consumer advertising (which accounts for about 60 per cent), was marked, then there was a sharp fall in the other categories.

At present prices manufacturers' consumer advertising increased by 27 per cent over the figure for 1975. Display advertising from other sources, such as the Government, nationalized industries, savings and financial institutions and retailers, collectively went up by only 20 per cent.

Classified advertising and, within that, recruitment advertising fell in real terms with a rise in current prices of only 17 per cent. While advertising in trade and technical journals recovered in 1976, the in-

No strikes, low wages, a basic 44-hour working week without overtime, and a booming export market, have turned Taiwan into East Asia's new up-and-coming economic miracle.

This oversimplified formula for economic success is offered by Mr C. F. Wu, the adviser to Taiwan's Ministry for Economic Affairs, as he explains how the island of 26 million Chinese has more than exceeded its growth targets in recent years.

The formula certainly works. Last year Taiwan achieved a growth rate of 11.7 per cent, exports rose by 53 per cent to \$8,200m (about \$4,713m), inflation was held down to less than 3 per cent and the prospects look just as bright this year.

While denying suggestions that strikes are in fact banned under law in Taiwan, Mr Wu admits that the basic secret behind the country's phenomenal economic growth is a lack of trade union activity as known to the West or Japan.

The explanation is simple, Mr Wu points out that the island can only hope to achieve a target of 8.5 per cent growth this year if exports increase by at least 16 per cent.

Private economists and ineffective union leaders claim that the boom in exports has only been achieved because

creases were not sufficiently marked to cancel out the sharp decline which hit all advertising in 1974 and 1975.

The overall result of the various advertising components was an expenditure total for all advertising of £1,188m, an increase at present prices of just under 23 per cent on 1975. At constant (1970) prices, however, the overall results show little, if any, real gain on the previous year.

The clearest sign and acceptance that the industry is climbing back from a low base, the expenditure totals for display advertising for the first half of 1977 show impressive further increases which are ahead of industry forecasts.

Figures produced by the Media Expenditure Analysis (MEAL) research company shows a rise of 22.5 per cent in press and television advertising spending at current prices over the figures for January to June 1976. This compares with a forecast by the Advertising Association of a rise of about 20 per cent for the first quarter and 15 per cent for the second.

The MEAL figures substantiated by the precise net advertising earnings released monthly by the independent television companies. These show a gain of 27 per cent, again at current prices, for the six-month period.

The Independent Television Companies Association's actual figures compare with a forecast rise of 18.2 per cent for the first quarter and 6.9 per cent for the second.

A more detailed analysis produced by MEAL for the first quarter adjusted to constant (1970) prices reveals a real

SOME CHANGES IN SPENDING ON ADVERTISING

	First quarter 1977 on fourth quarter 1976
Government	-18
Retail	-4
Financial	+1
Industrial	+2
Motors	+8
Clothing	-12
Food	+29
Drink and tobacco	+29
Tolleries and Medical	+9
Household and leisure	+18
Publishing	+28
Tourism	+52

*Seasonally adjusted and at constant prices.
Source: Media Expenditure Analysis

MANUFACTURERS' CONSUMER ADVERTISING		
	Expenditure in 1970 prices	Expenditure in current prices
Year	£m	£m
1966	247	239
1967	261	252
1968	260	250
1969	249	271
1970	267	311
1971	287	348
1972	297	362
1973	258	348
1974	226	387
1975	226	448
1976	234	493

Source: Advertising Association

growth of 10.5 per cent, compared with an expected decline of 5 per cent on the same three months of 1976.

More subjective signs that advertising volume is reaching 1973 levels is the near saturation of some of the larger independent television stations. One company, Thames, has said that it will have to ration airtime this autumn and is already turning away business.

It is, incidentally, an indication of the general uncertainty whether this relative prosperity will continue that some contractors are offering cheaper rates to advertisers who are prepared to guarantee them a fixed percentage of their television advertising budgets.

For the future, a survey of marketing intentions for the next six months, carried out for Marketing magazine, shows a high level of optimism.

The proportion of all consumer goods manufacturers intending to spend more on advertising was 44 per cent, while 11 per cent expected to spend less.

As already indicated, consumer goods manufacturers accounted for most of the growth in advertising spending in 1976. This category has led the even more pronounced recovery in the last six months. The broad tendency has been for the existing big advertising spenders—those with higher advertising to sales ratios—to spend more.

Television has received the largest part of the increase. In the first quarter press advertising went up by 19 per cent, compared with a rise of 39 per cent in spending on television. In the first six months overall, press advertising went up by 21.7 per cent against a net rise in television revenue of 27 per cent.

The traditional assumption, borne out in previous years, has been that the returns for television, issued several months ahead of precise figures for other types of advertising, are a reasonably accurate indicator of general advertising trends. The assumptions are that television is the first to reflect changes, with press display advertising following and classified and industrial advertising moving in the same direction later.

On this basis, the signals are that advertising in all its forms is about to enjoy a return to buoyancy. However, a closer analysis of the composition of the recent growth shows why the industry is nervous about drawing any long-term conclusions about it.

During the first quarter, the product categories showing the biggest increases (seasonally adjusted and at constant prices) over the last quarter of 1976 have been holidays; drink, household appliances, food, publishing and household stores.

Of these, the biggest and most important group is food, whose advertising spending accounts for a high proportion—about 17 per cent—of the total. The bulk of the increase in food advertising is accounted for by the 90 per cent of the appropriation goes to television. Having shown little variation at constant prices seasonally adjusted over the last three years, expenditure on food during the first quarter increased exceptionally with a real growth of 29 per cent. This single category was therefore a main contributor to the rise in television spending during that period.

Looking at food in more detail, it can be seen that much of the increase comes from a

few products, such as flour, margarine, cheese and bread. A year ago advertising spending for these products was below the 1973 level even at current prices, but it was well above in the first quarter of 1977.

Manufacturers' decisions to alter advertising spending relate to conditions within the particular markets in which they trade. There is, for example, a direct correlation between advertising spending on margarine and the retail price of butter.

Increased advertising spending may also take place in an attempt to hold declining sales, as, for example, of foreign tours and holidays. It may also be a response to competitive pressures within the market, such as happened with tobacco, with first the king-size cigarette price war and secondly the launch of substitute tobacco creating intense marketing pressures against an overall background of static sales.

At one time, it was thought possible to regard movements in advertising spending as a pointer to overall national economic conditions. But the present view of some economists in the industry is that the variations within the individual sectors are too great for it to act as any sort of reliable short-term indicator.

This year, apart from the difficulties of smoothing out distortions from more or less normal variations, the effects of price and profit margin controls have also to be taken into account. The second half of the year got off to a good start with an exceptionally big increase of almost 23 per cent in the advertising of the July. It may, or may not, be significant that this was the month when the system of price control changed from a fairly rigid to a flexible structure.

While increases in advertising costs were not allowed under the old Price Code to be offset against price increases they were lumped with trading expenses for profit margin control purposes. It is not yet clear how any heavy increases in advertising spending will be viewed by the new Price Commission. Some of the big consumer product manufacturers may hold back from fixing new approximations until further guidelines have been established.

Patricia Tisdall

Taiwan: export successes in spite of all

As the US Secretary of State continues his talks in Peking, Peter Hazelhurst looks at the economy of the country which has been a longstanding source of tension between America and China.

strikes have been outlawed to provide Taiwan with a competitive edge over Japan and other manufacturers of textiles, electronic goods, machinery and plastics.

At the same time low wages and other incentives had attracted \$1,500m in foreign investments by the end of last year.

Just over 83 per cent of all foreign investments in Taiwan are concentrated in electronic, metal, chemical and machinery plants where skilled and unskilled workers earn an average salary of \$150 a month.

In many plants where labour unions are suppressed by law, young girls on production lines earn as little as \$2.5 a day.

On paper the constitution provides Taiwanese workers with the right to strike but in effect the clause is superseded by the fact that regulations which outlaw any form of militant trade union activity.

Mr Wu argues that dissatisfied workers can appeal to the local bureau for social welfare

if they are being exploited. "Last year there was an average wage increase of 17 per cent while inflation did not rise above 3 per cent," he said.

"We believe in negotiations rather than strikes. In the first place we are still on a war footing. Strikes will disrupt our social security."

"We do not have strikes here because there is a great demand for labour. The unemployment rate is less than 2 per cent and I believe the question of supply and demand obviates exploitation."

He is confident that Taiwan will continue to outbid its competitors in the international

market in future even if wages continue to rise at the present rate.

According to the latest projections Taiwan's exports are expected to rise to \$9,500m this year to provide the country with a surplus trade balance of \$500m.

"We can maintain a competitive edge in the near future even if wages shoot up. Our base wages are very low. We are also attempting to switch to capital and technical intensive industries in the near future," Mr Wu said.

The Government is now implementing a plan to train an additional 253,000 skilled workers by 1982.

While Taiwan's low-priced export commodities have raised the jealousy of competitors and trade unions in the United States, Europe and Japan, there can be little doubt that exporters are working against extreme odds.

With the exception of the United States, Taiwan is officially boycotted by the governments of the industrialized West and Japan and therefore does not enjoy formal trade privileges in the international market.

Explaining Taiwan's disadvantages, Mr Wellington Tsao, secretary general of the privately constituted Euro-Asia Trade Organization, says: "In the first place Europe does not maintain diplomatic relations with Taiwan so we do not enjoy most favoured nation treatment."

"Secondly, we are not in the United Nations so we are not included in Gatt. We are not consulted on quotas and because Taiwan is not included in the Third World there are differences in tariffs."

Business Diary: True to form? • Hard sell

Men who hate filling forms sent them to ignore for government of the year. Only 792 forms, or 11 per cent, came back.

While some people are learning how to start their own businesses—as reported in Business Diary last week—others are being invited to take a course on how to sell out.

It is being run by the Small Firms Centre, a Leicester Polytechnic. Seminar leader Sean Franklin explained that demand for the course had come from two types of businessmen—those who thought that their companies had become too large and sought a merger, and those who simply wished to sell and get out.

Although the latter included some who wanted to retire, their was a growing number who felt themselves frustrated by recent government legislation and now wished to "take the profits and run", Franklin said.

The course was set up to help firms who "sometimes" fear that they are going to be sold down the river, especially when it comes to dealing with larger organizations with experience and expert advice.

Nicholas Stacey, of Chesham amalgamations and "investments" one of the country's leading merger brokers, will provide the small businessmen with expert advice, along with representatives from a merchant bank and the Industrial and Commercial Finance Corporation.

The delight of Howard Fraser, managing director of Stanley Gibbons, over his acquisition of Penny Black

appointing" must be a strong contender for the title of underdog of the year. Only 792 forms, or 11 per cent, came back.

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The delight of Howard Fraser, managing director of Stanley Gibbons, over his acquisition of Penny Black



"That's the fourth demand notice I've had. No wonder in Britain is the highest in Europe."

specialist Charles Nissen & Co this week, has been tempered by anger at London Transport. Having laid out money to have buses festooned with advertisements, the most prominent of which proclaims: "This bus passes the world's most famous stamp shop," he has not been too pleased by reports that in some cases it has been doing nothing of the sort.

Indeed, my man caught a number 171 at Waterloo to take him to Gray's Inn Road. Seasoned bus-watchers will know that the 171 goes over Waterloo Bridge and crosses the Strand to get into Aldwych. Gibbons, at 391 the Strand, is "some way away."

At the Stuart Advertising Agency Norman Browne, production and office manager for the company handling Gibbons' account, says that there have been a number of sightings of stray Gibbons buses. On Saturday, in Bromley, Kent,

smoothly. "One might accept a reasonable proportion of this for a short period. But our monitoring is now revealing a much worse situation."

London Transport, he added, has now agreed on compensation.

It will take Lloyds Bank years to exorcise the ghost of Lugano. It has had to shoulder losses of £28m because of unauthorized dabbling in the foreign exchange markets by some of its staff there three years ago.

But at least it is doing its best to remove the physical manifestations. Lloyds Bank International has now decided to reduce Lugano's status to that of a sub-branch, with a view to shutting up shop altogether in the Swiss backwater in a few months' time.

Clearly, after the little local difficulty it had in Lugano, Lloyds never allowed the branch anything like the same headroom as before.

Even so, it is doubtful if Lloyds would have turned away good business had it come through Lugano's doors. And after the disturbing series of Swiss banking scandals, banking laws have been tightened up. Towns along the Italian border, like Lugano and Chiasso, are no longer the "suitcase-centres" for Italian nervous about the politics of their country scrambling to find a safe home for their money—not to mention the necessity of paying off the odd kidnapper.

Yesterday the Uruguayan government devalued the peso for the third time this month. The 15th time this year and the 82nd since 1972.

LEUMI INTERNATIONAL INVESTMENTS N.V.

(Incorporated under the Commercial Code of the Netherlands Antilles)

ISSUES OF

up to U.S. \$10,000,000

7% GUARANTEED CONVERTIBLE BONDS 1984

AND

up to U.S. \$20,000,000

GUARANTEED FLOATING RATE NOTES 1984

All unconditionally and irrevocably guaranteed as to payment of principal, premium (if any) and interest by

BANK LEUMI LE-ISRAEL B.M.

(Incorporated under the Companies Ordinance of Israel)

ISSUE PRICE—100% plus accrued interest

Application has been made to the Council of The Stock Exchange in London for the Convertible Bonds and the Notes to be admitted to the Official List.

The subscription list for the Convertible Bonds will open at 9.30 a.m. (London time) on 7th September, 1977 and will close at 3.00 p.m. (London time) on 15th September, 1977. The subscription list for the Notes will open at 9.30 a.m. (London time) on 15th September, 1977 and will close at 3.00 p.m. (London time) on the same day. Each subscription list may be closed prior to its stated closing time.

It is expected that dealings in the Convertible Bonds and the Notes will commence on 19th September, 1977 and that the Convertible Bonds and the Notes will be available for delivery on 22nd September, 1977 at the offices of Bank Leumi (U.K.) Limited, 4-7 Woodstock Street, London W1A 2AF.

Copies of the Prospectus and Application Forms may be obtained during usual business hours up to the closing of the subscription list for the Notes from:

BANK LEUMI (U.K.) LIMITED
4-7 Woodstock Street, London W1A 2AF 11 Broad Street, London EC4P 4BT

BANK LEUMI LE-ISRAEL (SWITZERLAND)
34 Claridenstrasse, CH 8022 Zurich

BANK LEUMI LE-ISRAEL (FRANCE) S.A.
30 Boulevard des Italiens, Paris 9e

FINANCIAL NEWS AND MARKET REPORTS

Stock markets

Struggling to recover buoyancy

The short Bank Holiday account appears to be maintaining its lethargic traditions. There were signs at the outset yesterday that shares were struggling to restore last week's momentum but genuine buying interest looks thin at present and an attempt to recover buoyancy was quickly stifled by the latest unemployment figures.

Clips picked up initially, still hopeful of a further cut in Minimum Lending Rate, but the impetus soon faded and many Government stocks closed as much as 1/2 down, although after hours trading saw quiet gains of between 1/2 and 3/4.

The FT Index finished at 483.7, down 15 on balance after 487.2 at the beginning of the day's trading. Leading issues such as ICI, GKN and Tube Investments were unchanged.

On September 8 Cadbury Schweppes is expected to report on the half year to June 30. Some say that it will turn in profits of around £19.5m against £16m thanks in part to a strong recovery in North America. At 52p Cadbury now offers a sizeable yield advantage over Rountree whose record however is preferred by many.

changed and a scant few achieved any gains. Unilever at 512p and Bechtel Group at 583p were both cropped by 1/2, although Lucas held on to a 6p advance to 310p on hopes that its labour problems will shortly be solved and Turner & Newall ended 1/2 up at 195p on further consideration of its United States ambitions.

But, not for the first time, it was left to situation stocks to turn the wheels of business

over. Steels group Samuel Osborn was one of the more prominent features here and market fingers pointed to Johnson Firth Brown as the likely bidder. Not so, JFB was quick to point out, but it would be surprising if Osborn shares disappeared from the limelight completely.

Strong interim growth at Ocean Transport & Trading was good for a 4p rise to 163p and, coincidentally, Ocean's former bid target, May's Wharf, advanced 6p to 134p on revived rumours.

The alarms industry set several shares ringing and the announcement that Rascal Electronics has hoisted its stake in Brocks Group—which also unveiled encouraging profits—of 5 per cent to 11.33 per cent certainly appealed to dealers and the shares climbed 3p to 85p. Glanfield Securities enjoyed another day of strong demand and scored a further 12p gain to 185p. The market however is rather thin.

Speculative buying spilled over into Jonas Woodhead

again and into Brent Chemicals and good results supported engineering group Woodhouse & Rixson, which climbed 2 1/2p to 31 1/2p. Haulage, which had been in good demand on Monday, advanced to 135p while other companies reporting yesterday included Abrasives International and Cableform, which also scored rises.

Over on the property pitch, Centrovincial responded to a reassuring statement on de-gearing with a 1p gain to 6 1/2p, although there is still no dividend. Other stocks in this sector to stand out included MEPC, with a 2p rise to 93p, and English Property Corporation added 1 1/2p to 44 1/2p.

Marked trends were difficult to spot in other areas. Leading building issues came off by around 1p across the board while press comment helped lift UDS group by a like amount to 76p and others such as international, Midland Bank, British Home Stores and Marks & Spencer were similarly improved.

The option market quietened again and the fortnightly busi-

ness conducted yesterday was confined to call arranged in Tricentral, and put in GSC and a double completed in the same stock.

Equity turnover on August 22 was £56.46m (13.51b bargains). According to Exchange Telegraph, active stocks yesterday

Thos Ward is attracting some attention from brokers for yield (11.5 per cent) and hopes for recovery next year if not this one (to September). Consign about a sale of the Tunnel Holdings stake has died for the moment but now there is talk, but no more, of dalliance with Tarmac. Ward's shares held steady at 49p where they are still a long way from the 1976-77 high of 60 1/2p.

were ICI, Shell, BAT Dfnd, Unilever, General Electric, BOC, International, Midland Bank, Royal Insurance, Burnham, Bechtel Group, Barclays Bank, GKN, Imperials Group, Samuel Osborn, Jonas Woodhead and Hawthorn Baker.

Latest results

Company	Sales	Profits	Earnings	Div	Pay	Year's
Inc or Fin	£m	£m	per share	pence	date	total
Abrasives Int (I)	1.4(1.0)	0.04(0.02)	—	0.56(0.59)	—	—
Brocks Group (I)	4.9(3.8)	0.56(0.47)	—	1.4(1.2)	15/11	—
Cableform Grp (F)	2.2(1.6)	0.34(0.05)	5.84(0.91)	0.1(0.2)	—	9.3(0.2)
Centrovincial (F)	—	0.88(0.12)	2.06(1.29)	Nil(Nil)	—	Nil(Nil)
Hendrix (F)	5.5(4.4)	0.39(0.02)	21.9(20.0)	3.8(3.4)	—	3.8(3.4)
Johnson Grp (I)	9.2(8.1)	0.62(0.52)	—	1.2(1.1)	1/10	3.9(3.4)
Meat Trade (F)	10.3(8.7)	0.46(0.42)	9.6(8.7)	3.36(3.63)	—	7.2(7.1)
Melody Mills (F)	6.6(6.2)	0.51(0.75)	14.3(21.3)	2.3(2.6)	—	2.5(2.6)
Ocean Trans (I)	241.5(182.6)	26.1(19.2)	26.1(19.2)	3.8(3.4)	1/11	—
Peko Walsland (F)	—	17.56(11.4)	57.1(41.1)	7.5(7.9)	28/10	15(15)
Pico (F)	—	1.3(1.1)	13.2(11.3)	1.9(1.7)	20/10	2.6(2.4)
Restormer (F)	6.1(4.3)	0.81(0.43)	28.15(12.9)	4.0(3.5)	14/10	4.8(3.5)
Southwaite (F)	—	0.98(0.82)	71.5(53.3)	1.15(1.03)	3/10	—
Woodfine Rix (I)	6.2(5.3)	0.15(0.53)	—	—	—	—

Dividends in this table are shown net of tax on pence per share. Elsewhere in Business News dividends are shown on a gross basis. To establish gross multiply the net dividend by 1.515. Profits are shown pre-tax and earnings at net. * Forecast. † Australian currency. ‡ South Afr. currency.

De Beers

Increased Interim Dividend
Interim report to members

for the half-year ended 30th June 1977 and notice of declaration of interim dividend

The following are the unaudited consolidated results of the Company and its subsidiaries for the half-year ended 30th June, 1977, together with the comparative figures for the half-year ended 30th June, 1976, and for the year ended 31st December, 1976, which should be read in conjunction with the subjoined notes:—

	Half-year ended 30.6.77	Half-year ended 30.6.76	Year ended 31.12.76
Diamond account	R'000	R'000	R'000
Interest and dividends	380 192	215 646	451 543
Royalties and sundry revenue	83 150	42 222	93 624
Surplus on realisation of fixed assets	14 244	7 393	13 833
	477 671	265 202	558 997

Deduct:			
Prospecting and research	12 639	9 492	20 262
General charges	8 767	8 596	17 210
Interest payable	1 743	2 153	4 755
Amount written off investments less surplus on realisation of investments	979	(5 832)	(3 146)
	24 128	14 409	39 081

Group profit before tax	453 543	250 793	519 916
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Deduct:			
State's share of profit under mining leases	10 689	9 072	36 146
Tax	151 505	79 412	166 769
	162 194	88 484	182 915

Group profit after tax	291 349	162 309	337 001
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Deduct:			
Outside interests in subsidiary companies	5 974	14 686	28 485

Group profit after tax attributable to De Beers Consolidated Mines Limited	285 375	147 623	308 516
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Preference dividend of R1 per share declared 17th May 1977	795	795	—
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Second preference dividend of 4 cents per share declared 17th May 1977	115	115	—
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Cost of interim dividend of 17.5 cents per deferred share (1976: 12.5 cents)	62 963	44 974	—
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Notes

- It should not be assumed that the results for the half-year ended 30th June will be repeated in the half-year ending 31st December, since income does not necessarily accrue evenly throughout the year.
- As a result of a further re-arrangement of shareholdings in the diamond trading companies, the Group disposed of three per cent of the share capital of The Diamond Purchasing and Trading Company (Proprietary) Limited ("PUTRA"), which consequently has ceased to be a subsidiary company. There is no direct comparison with the corresponding period in 1976 because PUTRA's results have not been consolidated and only dividends received from that company are included.

DIAMOND MARKET

The high level of sales and profits as compared with the corresponding period last year is due in part to the liquidation of old stocks. The price increase of 15 per cent made in March is being absorbed and the market remains firm.

MERGER OF ANGLO AMERICAN CORPORATION OF SOUTH AFRICA LIMITED AND RAND SELECTION CORPORATION LIMITED

Following the merger of Anglo American Corporation and Rand Selection Corporation in May 1977, and related transactions, the Group's interest in Anglo American Corporation has increased to 33.15 per cent of the equity share capital.

INTERIM DIVIDEND

Declaration of Dividend No. 115 on the Deferred Shares. An interim dividend in respect of the year ending 31st December 1977, being dividend No. 115 of 17.5 cents per share (1976: 12.5 cents) has been declared payable to the holders of deferred shares registered in the books of the Company at the close of business on 30th September 1977, and to persons presenting coupon No. 59 detached from deferred share warrants to bearer.

A notice regarding payment of dividends on coupon No. 59 detached from share warrants to bearer, will be published in the press by the London Secretaries of the Company on or about 23rd September, 1977.

The deferred share transfer registers and registers of members will be closed from 1st October 1977 to 14th October 1977, both days inclusive, and warrants will be posted from the Johannesburg and United Kingdom transfer offices on or about 17th October 1977. Registered shareholders paid from the United Kingdom will receive the United Kingdom currency equivalent on 18th October, 1977 of the rand value of their dividends (less appropriate taxes). Any such shareholders may, however, elect to be paid in South African currency, provided that the request is received at the Company's transfer offices in Johannesburg or the United Kingdom on or before 30th September, 1977.

The effective rate of non-resident shareholders' tax is 15 per cent.

The dividend is payable subject to conditions which can be inspected at the head office and London office of the Company and also at the Company's transfer offices in Johannesburg and the United Kingdom.

For and on behalf of the Board
H. F. OPPENHEIMER, Chairman
A. WILSON

23rd August, 1977



Largest diamond on Kimberley.

Head Office
30 Stockdale Street, Kimberley, South Africa
London Secretaries
Anglo American Corporation of South Africa Limited, 40 Holborn Viaduct, London EC1P 1AJ
Transfer Secretaries
Consolidated Share Registrars Limited, 62 Marshall Street, Johannesburg, (P.O. Box 61051, Marshalltown, 2107)
Charter Consolidated Limited, P.O. Box No. 102, Charter House, Park Street, Ashford, Kent TN24 8EQ United Kingdom

De Beers Consolidated Mines Limited

Incorporated in the Republic of South Africa
Copies of this report will be posted to registered shareholders

Toy sales
send Cowan
de Groot on
strong tack

By Alison Mitchell

First-quarter turnover at toy-maker-to-electrical wholesaler Cowan de Groot is well ahead of the May to July period last year, a confident chairman, Mr Derrick Cowan, tells shareholders in the annual report.

And with forward sales up by about a quarter in most divisions the group could be on the way to beating last year's £1.8m pre-tax profit.

In the 12 months to April 30 the toys and giftware division pushed up its profits contribution by more than 50 per cent to £690,000 as a result of increased mail-order business and larger range of John Bull products, including jewellery and farmyard modelling outfits as well as the printing sets. Mr Cowan pointed out that the group's expansion into the giftware trade, with its summer sales, has helped to offset the cyclical and seasonal problems.

Electrical Wholesalers, the Dublin-based company taken over about two years ago, now accounts for more than 10 per cent of group profits. This offshoot is expanding into Waterford and Limerick and the chairman expects it to increase its contribution in the future.

The accounts show that the company has less cash than at the same time last year—£471,000 against £747,000—due mainly to a proportion of the earlier balance consisting of funds on medium-term loan for acquisitions.

"More than £400,000 has been used for this purpose during the year," he says. But the group is also carrying higher stocks. Full production at the Risley factory of Millbrook Plastics means a greater level of turnover while the acquisition of hardware wholesaler W. F. Horwood & Co (Bristol) at the end of last year included stocks. The toy and giftware side of the business imported a large proportion of stocks earlier than required to avoid the risk of adverse currency fluctuations and higher import duties.

A note to the accounts shows that four, including the chairman, now receive salaries of more than £30,000 gross, against none last year. This results from a change in service agreement giving them a small percentage of profits over £500,000, on top of their basic salary.

Selection Trust buys Century
Aluminium for £1.4m

By Tony May

Talks over the possible purchase of Century Aluminium by Selection Trusts subsidiary, Amari, have been successfully completed.

In a deal valuing Century at £1m Amari has acquired 93.5 per cent of Century's equity, and the remaining shares will continue to be held by the executive directors, on terms which provide a formula for their purchase by Amari in the future.

The two biggest shareholders in Century were Noble Grossart, the Edinburgh-based banking and merchant banking group, and Alpine Holdings, the aluminium windows concern. These two were in Century from its formation in 1969. Noble Grossart had a stake of 40.0 per cent and Alpine one of 36.7 per cent. Over the year to June 30 the group made a pre-tax profit of £350,000 and had net assets of just over £1m. In return for its 40.4 per cent stake in Century, Noble Grossart has received £574,000. This compares with a cost of



Mr A. Chester Beatty, chairman of Selection Trusts.

£130,000, so Noble Grossart has made a paper profit of just over £400,000 after an association of eight years. Noble Grossart, which has North Sea exploration interests, has already signalled that it is building up its banking business, and is confident about pros-

pects for the current year. Meanwhile, Alpine says that it has received £520,500 cash for its near-37 per cent stake and is also to be repaid loans of £24,000 previously made to Century. The book value of Alpine's investment in Century at January 31 excluded the loans was £191,000—including accumulated profits of £32,000. Pre-tax profits of Century attributable to Alpine's interest for the year to January 31 was £82,000, compared with a loss of £76,000.

Amari, which is a major independent aluminium stockist, will be absorbing Century into its Alcon group of companies, which hold stocks of stainless steel and non-ferrous metals besides aluminium. It enjoyed a record year, and made a contribution of £2,53m to the operating profits of Selection Trust over the year to March 31, compared with a loss of £143,000 a year earlier. The loss reflected the slump in demand caused by the depression.

The good result was attributed by Amari to better trading conditions and in part to higher productivity.

Johnson's sound start
justifies bid defence

A record year is under way at Johnson Group Cleaners, the group which stood firm against a £4.7m bid from rivals Skerchey earlier this year. Over the six months to June 30, pre-tax profits went up from £530,000 to £625,000, on sales of £9.22m against £8.1m. This indicates a rise in margins from 6.5p to 6.7p. The improved trend of the first six months is reflected in better sales for July.

The board says that investment in the group's "Apparel-master" workwear and "Candy" continuous towel service is building up as sales increase. The integration of the Metro business which was purchased from Alfred Marks Bureau for £255,000 cash in January, has made for a "significant improvement" in profits of the dry cleaning division.

Over the whole of 1976-77, the group brought in a pre-tax profit of £1.43m compared with £1.42m. The small advance reflected a drop of 24 per cent in first-half profits, as family budgets were being squeezed, and the flatware was in any

case depressing retail trading generally. The second half saw the group making up all the lost ground, and this trend has continued into the present year. Shareholders are being sent a gross interim dividend of 1.92p compared with 1.74p, and a second interim of 3.96p is forecast to give a maximum payment of 5.88p against 5.36p for 1976-77. The dividend for 1976-77 was itself boosted 50 per cent as part of the group's takeover defence.

The results saw the group's shares unchanged at 49 1/2p, which compared with the offer of about 42p a share in cash and paper from Skerchey made in February. The shares at that time were about 48p.

The bid finally failed after being referred to the Monopolies Commission. Skerchey decided to call the deal off irrespective of the outcome. It had intended to expand its industrial workwear factories, using the £255,000. Skerchey could not postpone its decision and so opted to buy factory space independently.

Racal increases
stake in Brocks
but denies bid

By Michael Clark

Shares of the Brocks Group of Companies rose 3p to 85p of the news that Racal Electronics has increased its stake in Brocks and now holds 11.33 per cent of the capital. However, Racal has repeated its statement that it has no intentions of making a bid for the remainder of Brocks.

Interim results of Brocks, which makes electronic marine navigational aids, burglar alarms and car radios, shows a jump in pre-tax profits of 20 per cent to £566,000 in the six months to June 30. This was achieved on a turnover up from £3.8m to £4.9m. Its interim dividend is raised from 1.91p to 2.12p, and the board expects to pay the maximum per share total.

Results of the group for the last full year showed a rise in pre-tax profits from £582,000 to £585,000. However, 1975 figure was stated before adding £305,000. Those were management charges to former subsidiaries.

Ocean Interim results

The Directors have declared an Interim Dividend of 3.880p (1976—3.4835p) per stock unit. An additional special Interim Dividend of 0.0591p per stock unit will be paid as a result of the recent retrospective reduction in Advance Corporation Tax.

The aggregate amount of 3.9198p per stock unit will be payable on 1 November 1977 to stockholders on the register of members on 26 September 1977.

Group profit and loss statement for the half year ended 30 June 1977

	Half year to 30 June 1977	Half year to 30 June 1976	Year to 31 December 1976
Turnover	£'000	£'000	£'000
Trading profit (Note 2)	241,527	182,600	382,725
Investment income and interest	10,401	8,904	22,172
Interest payable	4,796	3,471	8,203
Profit on disposal of ships, etc.	(7,188)	(6,056)	(13,887)
Share of profits less losses of associated companies	658	1,401	2,401
Profit before taxation	17,477	7,570	22,315
Taxation (Note 3)	26,144	15,290	41,204
Profit after taxation	(4,570)	(4,324)	(9,513)
Exchange adjustments	21,574	10,966	31,691
Minority interests in profits of subsidiaries	802	1,320	(3,240)
Profit before extraordinary items	33	(2,872)	(3,897)
Extraordinary items	22,409	9,414	24,554
Group profit attributable to stockholders	(43)	171	17
Notes: 1. The results for the half year have not been audited			
2. Trading profit is stated after charging depreciation of	9,064	8,270	17,500
3. Taxation			
United Kingdom taxation			
Corporation tax	50	50	143
Advance corporation tax	2,220	2,060	4,360
Overseas taxation	980	714	484
	3,250	2,824	4,987
Taxation on share of profits of associated companies	1,320	1,500	4,526
	4,570	4,324	9,513

Taxation—The provision for tax equalisation has been dispensed with, as it is no longer considered necessary, resulting in a reduction of £6.8m in the tax charge for the half year to 30 June 1977. The comparative figures for 1976 have been amended accordingly. Advance Corporation Tax on dividends is included as part of the tax charge.

Prospects—The interim figures are in line with our May forecast that pre-tax profits for the year would show a further useful improvement. Although expectations for the remainder of the year are not quite so buoyant as they were, nonetheless we still expect the pre-tax profits for 1977 to exceed those of 1976. The level of profits expected in the second half of the year is affected by the transitional effects of the containerisation by O.C.L. of the New Zealand and South African trades.

Ocean Transport & Trading Limited
India Buildings, Liverpool L2 0RB

Better margins help Restmor to take-off, and still going strongly

Our Financial Staff
The shares in the Surrey-based Restmor Group rose by 10 1/2p yesterday on the news that the company's pre-tax profits jumped by 8 per cent to £818,000, easily exceeding the £750,000 target set for 1976. This was more than the rise in turnover, which was 4.7 per cent of £17m. With the charge of £100,000, earnings per share rose from 12.93p to 15.93p, against 12.93p. The total gross payment is up by 10 1/2p to 73.1p. Restmor is so structured that its turnover does not necessarily mean a correspond-

Abwood spurns reverse take-over approach

The mystery man trying to buy shares in Abwood Machine Tools has been identified as Mr. Victor Bolding, chairman and managing director of the private Norwich-based Beaver Machine Tool Sales. Perhaps with a reverse takeover in mind, he wrote to interested Abwood shareholders offering to buy their holdings for between 10p and 13p a share. However the AMT directors have said Mr Bolding that his company could be contrary to company law and he has now agreed not to write any further letters. But he has asked the directors to consider the possibility of Abwood acquiring one or more of the companies in which he and his family are interested. Mr Alan Peck, managing director, tells shareholders that although the board will discuss the idea, they do not foresee much future in Mr Bolding's plans.

Leach pays £1m to build up land bank
Stockport-based house builder Hugh Owen & Son (Holdings) has been bought by William Leach (Builders) for £1m cash. Owen, a private housebuilding and general contracting group centred mainly round the Greater Manchester and North Wales areas, made a pre-tax profit of £28,000 in the nine months to March 31, 1976.

Seventh peak in a row from Pifco; payout up

Record profits for the seventh year running are returned by Manchester-based Pifco Holdings. Trading profits were up by 24.5 per cent to £1.12m in the year to April 30. Taking in investment income, Pifco's total profit of £2,467,000, against £2,385,000, the pre-tax profit was £1,37m. Sales were not given in the preliminary figures. The better results arose from Pifco's increased volume and market share, the board explained.

With net earnings a share up from 11.34p to 13.24p, the total gross dividend is being raised from 3.71p to 4.08p. There was only a small change in the second half growth trend. The first-half pre-tax figures were up by 22.5 per cent. But it shows that the pace has quickened in 1975-76, profits were just 4.5 per cent ahead.

Pifco makes a wide range of portable consumer goods—personal care appliances, electrical housewares and battery-operated products. These retail in the £10 to £15 range.

For the current year, the company is taking a cautious view, as last year had "not been easy". However, the year has started "satisfactorily" and exports show a healthy trend. The market essentially depends on the individual consumer, with spending limited by the rise in the cost of living.

So, even taking into account the spare cash that tax rebates will put into the customers' hands, it does not appear likely that the present trend will show dramatic growth. The ordinary shares were unchanged at 75p yesterday, while the "A" was 72p, down a penny.

How Pifco can increase its earnings while experiencing a standstill in sales was underlined in the annual report for 1975-76. Turnover declined from £8.18m to £8.02m and trading profits from £987,400 to £900,400. However, with more than doubled investment income, pre-tax profits managed to rise from £1.09m to £1.13m.

Woodhouse plunges but signs of pick-up

By Ashley Druker
Sheffield forger and flange maker Woodhouse & Rixon turned in a drab showing in 1976, chiefly because of the collapse of the flange market. In the opening half to July 2 last it reports an improved performance compared with the final stage of 1976 though profits again show a steep plunge. On turnover up from £539m to £621m, taxable profit fell sharply from £534,000 to £151,000. There is no tax charge, and earnings a share came out at 1.5p compared with 5.3p. On this it pays an interim dividend of 1.5p. The board expects that flanges would move off the bottom of the industrial cycle and be in production by year-end. Meantime, over £2m has been spent on new plant and equipment and their full profit potential is yet to be realized.

Appeal to shareholders in Abrasives' family clash

A bitter boardroom row is brewing up at Solihull-based Abrasives International. Mr Colin Ashworth, son of the group founder and brother of the current chairman, is calling an extraordinary meeting to try to remove the existing directors and elect himself and three others to the board. Mr Ashworth was asked to resign as a director in 1974.

Mr Stewart Ashworth, the chairman, advises shareholders to reject the resolutions and promises group pre-tax profits of around £80,000 in the 12 months to December 31, against £6,000 last time. The annual dividend is also to be stepped up to 2.12p, giving a gross yield of around 12 per cent.

TRINIDAD TOBACCO LOAN
A \$150m seven-year loan to Government of Trinidad and Tobago being syndicated by Morgan Guaranty Trust and associates. Loan repayable in instalments after three years' grace, with carry interest at one point above interbank Eurodollar rates for three years and 1.125 points for other four years.

United Tech bids \$58.5 for Babcock

The struggle for the United States Babcock & Wilcox (no relation to the British group of the same name) has now gone on longer than many successful plays. As long as last March United Technologies, once called United Aircraft Corporation, proposed a \$42 a share tender offer as long ago as last March. Only last Thursday it offered \$55 a share now it has gone to \$58.50. This offer will end on August 25 unless extended.

Babcock would not comment on this bid for the outstanding 12.2m outstanding common shares which leaves the ball in the court of J. Ray McDermott who is talking to the board of its investment banker Smith Barney Harris Upham & Co. It plans an announcement soon. McDermott made an offer of \$60 a share last Friday for 4.3m Babcock shares and it also has an offer of package of securities for 55 per cent of Babcock's stock.

Beth issues lowered
New York—Standard & Poor says that it has lowered the rating on Bethlehem Steel corporation debentures to "single A" from "double A" because of the steel industry's troubles and internal operating problems which have seriously affected financial ratios. It said recovery to former standards may take some time.—AP—Dow Jones.

Touche Ross-Lasser
New York—Touche Ross & Co and J. K. Lasser & Co, both public accounting firms, announced the consolidation of their practices, a merger that they said was the largest ever in the auditing profession. The merger includes only the United States domestic practice of J. K. Lasser, with annual revenue of about \$40m. The firm was part of an international partnership. It is currently called Lasser, Robson, Rhoades & Dunwoody. This international firm will continue to exist but without the Lasser participation.

Sentinel Insurance names new chairman

Mr Charles Springer has been made chairman of Sentinel Insurance, succeeding Mr Cyril Murray. Mr Malcolm Mendoza becomes a director. Mr D. S. Cook is to become financial director and secretary of Phoenix Timber at the end of next month, succeeding Mr Angus Davenport. Mr Michael Rose has been made a director of Bankers Trust International. Mr L. C. S. Knope has joined the board of FMC. Mr Christopher Sheen joins Farmer's Table as financial controller. Mr T. H. Burton, Mr I. F. Robertson and Mr J. Thomson have been appointed to the board of Hartley MacIntyre International. Mr W. D. Ferton is to join the board of the British Bank of the Middle East. Mr John Mason has gone on to the board of Taylor Woodrow Plant. Mr David L. Bowen has been made engineering director of Richardson, Westgarth & Co. Mr John D. Farmer has been made marketing director of Magnetic Components. Mr B. E. Weston is now a director and manager of Unit Trust Services, and Mr R. I. E. Carwell has been made a director. Mr D. J. Wormald has joined the board of Laurence Scott & Electromotors. Mr Hans Larsson has become deputy managing director of the Swedish Match Company. Mr Hasan Akhtar has joined the board of Record Merchandisers as managing director.

Local authority bonds

In this week's batch of local authority bonds, the GLC and the City of Liverpool are raising £2.5m each. Huntingdon District Council is raising £1m, as is the London borough of Hillingdon and Stoke-on-Trent. The rate on all these bonds is 8 1/2 per cent.

ASTBURY & MADELEY (HLDGS)
Company selling assets of subsidiary, JR Fellow, for £60,000 to Odds. Half the price will be cash and the rest in a secured loan. Loans repayable within five years. Fellows has been loss-making.

Notice of Redemption International Standard Electric Corporation

9% Sinking Fund Debentures, due October 1, 1986

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, pursuant to the provisions of the Indenture dated as of October 1, 1972 between International Standard Electric Corporation and European American Bank & Trust Company, Trustee, \$1,000,000 in principal amount of Debentures of the above issue will be redeemed through the operation of the Mandatory Sinking Fund and Optional Sinking Fund on October 1, 1977 at 100% of the principal amount thereof (the "redemption price"), together with interest accrued to the date fixed for redemption.

The coupon Debentures to be redeemed bear the following numbers:

\$1,000 Coupon Debentures Bearing the Prefix Letter M

9 1972 2994 4401 5947 7543 8990 10401 11957 13463 14969 16475 17981 19487 20993 22499 23505 24511 25517 26523 27529 28535 29541 30547 31553 32559 33565 34571 35577 36583 37589 38595 39601 40607 41613 42619 43625 44631 45637 46643 47649 48655 49661 50667 51673 52679 53685 54691 55697 56703 57709 58715 59721 60727 61733 62739 63745 64751 65757 66763 67769 68775 69781 70787 71793 72799 73805 74811 75817 76823 77829 78835 79841 80847 81853 82859 83865 84871 85877 86883 87889 88895 89901 90907 91913 92919 93925 94931 95937 96943 97949 98955 99961 100967 101973 102979 103985 104991 105997 106003 107009 108015 109021 110027 111033 112039 113045 114051 115057 116063 117069 118075 119081 120087 121093 122099 123105 124111 125117 126123 127129 128135 129141 130147 131153 132159 133165 134171 135177 136183 137189 138195 139201 140207 141213 142219 143225 144231 145237 146243 147249 148255 149261 150267 151273 152279 153285 154291 155297 156303 157309 158315 159321 160327 161333 162339 163345 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COMMODITIES AND MARKET REPORTS

Outlook for stabilization of coffee prices 'good'

By Wallace Jackson
Commodities Editor

Although 11 Latin American producer countries are discussing in Mexico City systems to stabilize both short and long term coffee prices, it seems clear that any proposed action would be taken in agreement with consumers through the International Coffee Organization (ICO).

Senior Camillo Calazans, president of the Brazilian Coffee Institute, quoted by Reuters from Mexico as saying that there is no intention of operating a cartel on the lines of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC).

He said that as no coffee producer was holding reserves it would be easier for them to achieve a consensus on ways of defending prices in the short term. The long-term prospects of setting up a stabilization system were good.

Senior Calazans criticized some producer countries which had continued to sell coffee stocks during recent price falls while possessing means to control exports, although some countries had been forced to continue selling through economic necessity.

In addition to Brazil, the meeting is being attended by Bolivia, Colombia, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Ecuador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, Venezuela and Mexico.

The talks are being held ahead of a meeting of the executive board of the ICO in Nairobi next Monday and a full council meeting in London towards the end of September. Mexican officials are hoping that a working group to study mechanisms for long-term stabilization will be set up at these meetings.

COPPER: Cash wire bars were 59.75, down from 60.00, and three months 60.00, down from 60.25. The market was quiet, with a few small trades. **SILVER:** Cash wire bars were 15.00, down from 15.10, and three months 15.10, down from 15.20. The market was quiet, with a few small trades. **WHEAT:** Cash wire bars were 1.00, down from 1.01, and three months 1.01, down from 1.02. The market was quiet, with a few small trades.

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Foreign Exchange

The dollar eased to around 2.3225, down from 2.3225, and three months 2.3225, down from 2.3225. The market was quiet, with a few small trades.

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Discount market

The second day running, the Bank of England intervened to support the pound, but the market was quiet, with a few small trades.

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Wall Street

New York, Aug. 23.—Bargain hunters found some attractive prices in brick trading on the New York Stock Exchange today.

The Dow Jones industrial average was down 3.58 points to 780.95, with 1,400 issues crossing the tape. The 473 unchanged issues reflected some investor uncertainty.

First-hour volume amounted to about five million compared with 4.15 million in the same period on Monday.

New York, Aug. 22.—Prices on the New York Stock Exchange declined slightly higher in light of a flurry of buying and selling interest in some of the blue chips.

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US gold again lower

New York, Aug. 23.—United States gold prices fell on Monday, with the market closing at 1,230.00, down from 1,235.00.

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Spot Position of Sterling

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Eurobond prices (midday indicators)

Issue	Price	Yield
100% 1981	100.00	8.00
100% 1982	100.00	8.00
100% 1983	100.00	8.00
100% 1984	100.00	8.00
100% 1985	100.00	8.00
100% 1986	100.00	8.00
100% 1987	100.00	8.00
100% 1988	100.00	8.00
100% 1989	100.00	8.00
100% 1990	100.00	8.00

Bank Base Rates

Bank	Rate
Barclays Bank	8.00
Consolidated Crds	8.00
First London Secs	8.00
C. Hoare & Co	8.00
Lloyds Bank	8.00
Midland Bank	8.00
Nat Westminster	8.00
Royal Bank	8.00
Shenley Trust	11.00
T.S.B.	8.00
Williams & Glyn's	8.00

NEW CENTRAL WITWATERSRAND

Further to the dividend notice advertised in the Press on the 14th July 1977, the conversion rate applicable to payments in United Kingdom currency in respect of the shareholders' dividend is 1.00 Rand to 1.00 Sterling. The effective rate of South African Non-Resident Shareholders' Tax is 14.00 per cent.

DUDLEY METROPOLITAN BOROUGH

We regret that in the advertisement on page 16 in yesterday's edition of THE TIMES offering £100,000 Dudley Metropolitan Borough Floating Rate Stock 1982 at £100 per cent, the interest per £100 Stock in respect of the half year commencing 22nd August 1977 to be paid on 28th February 1978 read £4.0935 (less income tax). This should have read £4.09375 (less income tax).

M. J. B. NIGHTINGALE & CO. LIMITED	Price	Yield
100% 1981	100.00	8.00
100% 1982	100.00	8.00
100% 1983	100.00	8.00
100% 1984	100.00	8.00
100% 1985	100.00	8.00
100% 1986	100.00	8.00
100% 1987	100.00	8.00
100% 1988	100.00	8.00
100% 1989	100.00	8.00
100% 1990	100.00	8.00

Money Market Rates

Rate	Yield
100% 1981	8.00
100% 1982	8.00
100% 1983	8.00
100% 1984	8.00
100% 1985	8.00
100% 1986	8.00
100% 1987	8.00
100% 1988	8.00
100% 1989	8.00
100% 1990	8.00

Bank of Montreal rights

The Bank of Montreal says that it plans to offer shareholders registered on September 1 rights to purchase one additional share for every eight shares held at \$14.25 a share. The offering is expected to raise \$76.6m. It will not be extended to United States residents although they may assign or sell their rights.—AP/Dow Jones.

Authorized Units, Insurance & Offshore Funds

Unit	Price	Yield
100% 1981	100.00	8.00
100% 1982	100.00	8.00
100% 1983	100.00	8.00
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100% 1985	100.00	8.00
100% 1986	100.00	8.00
100% 1987	100.00	8.00
100% 1988	100.00	8.00
100% 1989	100.00	8.00
100% 1990	100.00	8.00

Forward Levels

Rate	Yield
100% 1981	8.00
100% 1982	8.00
100% 1983	8.00
100% 1984	8.00
100% 1985	8.00
100% 1986	8.00
100% 1987	8.00
100% 1988	8.00
100% 1989	8.00
100% 1990	8.00

Gold

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